Negro's Farm Earned $130,000, Award

(An Editorial in The Philadelphia Bulletin)

A glimpse of the new South comes from ... given to Alabama Negro farmer ... Willard P. Jenkins ... received the honor because he displayed ... management ... agricultural science ... the crop-sharing tenant farmer seem remote in the light of the report that the Jenkins farm in Alabama earned gross income of $130,000 in 1952.

... Southern farmers ... sweet potatoes—Jenkins branched out into ... of cattle for market. Many of his acres are put in pasturage and from this livestock development he earned more than $22,000 of his total income. This diversification of Southern farming is going on in most of the border states and is doing much to lift them out of the low-income group.

The whole setup of the Jenkins farm, with its electrical appliances, gas heat and garage, has no kinship with the crude implements and low living standards that prevailed in the old South. This modern farm fits in perfectly with the new industries that are rapidly springing up in Southern communities and is part of a pilot plant for a section which only a few years ago was called the nation's economic problem No. 1.

$25,000-A-YEAR FARMER—Pleas Orr Jr., right, $25,000-a-year farmer of Tanner, Ala. operates a 600-acre farm with machinery. He shows his weeder to W. B. Hill, State Extension leader, left, and retired County Agent Benjamin F. Hill.

$25,000-a-year Ala. farmer says success due to 4-H club training

WASHINGTON

Four-H training has paid off for Pleas Orr Jr., $25,000-a-year colored farmer of Tanner, Ala., in the Tennessee Valley area. He is still putting into practice some of the things he learned as a club boy nearly 30 years ago.

One of the lessons that have stuck with him through the years is never to count on any one crop. He learned it early, and has grown ... two to ... cash crops ... since.

Today, he is one of the outstanding diversified farmers of Alabama, says State Extension Leader W. B. Hill in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

First In County

Mr. Orr, who was the first 4-H'er in his county, discovered the shortsightedness of one-crop farming his second year as a clubber when he devoted all his spare time to raising two young steers as his sole project.

But a passing automobile changed all that. The calves became frightened by the car and took off through the field, dragging him behind them at the end of a rope.

When they finally stopped, the bruised boy headed his project straight toward the local butcher shop.

He was through with the idea of raising the steers for oxen, as well as with putting all his dependence in one project.

Retains Experience

Mr. Orr attributes much of his success to this boyhood experience. Last year, he and Mrs. Orr sold 100 bales of cotton, 175 hogs, 5,000 bushels of corn, 1,000 bushels of oats, $300 worth of apples and peaches, two tons of vetch seed, and 75 tons of hay.

His lespedeza hay is of such excellent quality that livestock men all over the state know about it. Once Ringling Brothers Circus had him ship them five tons of his hay all the way to Montgomery, 200 miles away, for their best show horses.

Mr. Orr expects to feed more of his hay and corn to his own cattle in the future. He started buying a foundation herd last fall. The 46-year-old farmer had some cattle once before, but sold out when he got a good offer.

Modern Equipment

The farmer owns five tractors, a combine, a corn picker, a one-man hay baler, a seed drill, a rotary hoe, a cotton blocker, a lime spreader, and a feed chopper. Machinery has cut the manpower requirements of his farm 75 percent.

Two tenant families and two hired hands help Mr. and Mrs. Orr farm 600 acres. Of these, they own only 55 acres they bought in 1936 for $5,000 cash. The rest of the land they operate, they rent from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

BAT YOUR EYES . . . AND HE'LL GET YOU!—J. B. Newman (above), of Route 1, Clopton, Ala., raises and sells fighting cocks as a hobby. And he is making the hobby pay several hundred dollars annually. Here he is seen holding two of his prized birds.

Newman shows County Agent Felix Blackwood (inset top left) bills of sale for six birds that averaged almost $40 each. He built a crate (seen in inset top right) for another shipment of six birds. The Henry County farmer, forthright civic leader, ships fighting birds to many parts of the United States and to foreign countries.

PLEAS ORR, jr., (right) $25,000-a-year farmer of Tanner, Ala., in the Tennessee Valley area, once planned to use oxen to work his crops. Today he operates a 600-acre diversified farm with machinery doing just about everything except pick his cotton crop. In photo he shows state extension leader W. B. Hill (left) and retired county agent Benjamin F. Hill his four-row rotary weeder used in the cultivation of cotton.

Things Learned As Boy Valuable

Four-H training has paid off for Pleas Orr, jr., $25,000-a-year colored farmer of Tanner, Ala., in the Tennessee Valley area. He is still putting into practice some of the things he learned as a club boy [illegible] Tanner's farm nearly 20 years ago.

One of the lessons that have stuck with him through the years is never to count on any one crop. He learned it early, and has grown from two to 10 cash crops ever since. Today, he is one of the outstanding diversified farmers of Alabama, says State Extension Leader W. B. Hill in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

COUNTY'S FIRST 4-H'ER

Orr, who was the first 4-H'er in his county, discovered the shortsightedness of one-crop farming his second year as a clubber when he devoted all his spare time to raising two young steers as his sole project. He had planned to show them at the community fair, and later to use them as oxen to help him get started in farming on [illegible]

But a passing automobile changed all that. The calves became frightened by the car and took off through the field, dragging him behind them at the end of a rope. When they finally stopped, the bruised boy headed his project straight toward the local butcher shop. He was through with the idea of raising the steers for oxen, as well as with putting all his dependence in one project.

LEARNED IN YOUTH

Orr attributes much of his success to this boyhood experience. Last year, he and Mrs. Orr sold 100 bales of cotton, 175 hogs, 5,000 bushels of corn, 1,000 bushels of oats, $200 worth of apples and peaches, two tons of vetch seed, and 75 tons of hay.

His lespedeza hay is of such excellent quality that livestock men all over the State know about it. Once Ringling Brothers Circus had him ship them five tons of his hay all the way to Montgomery, 200 miles away, for their best show horses.

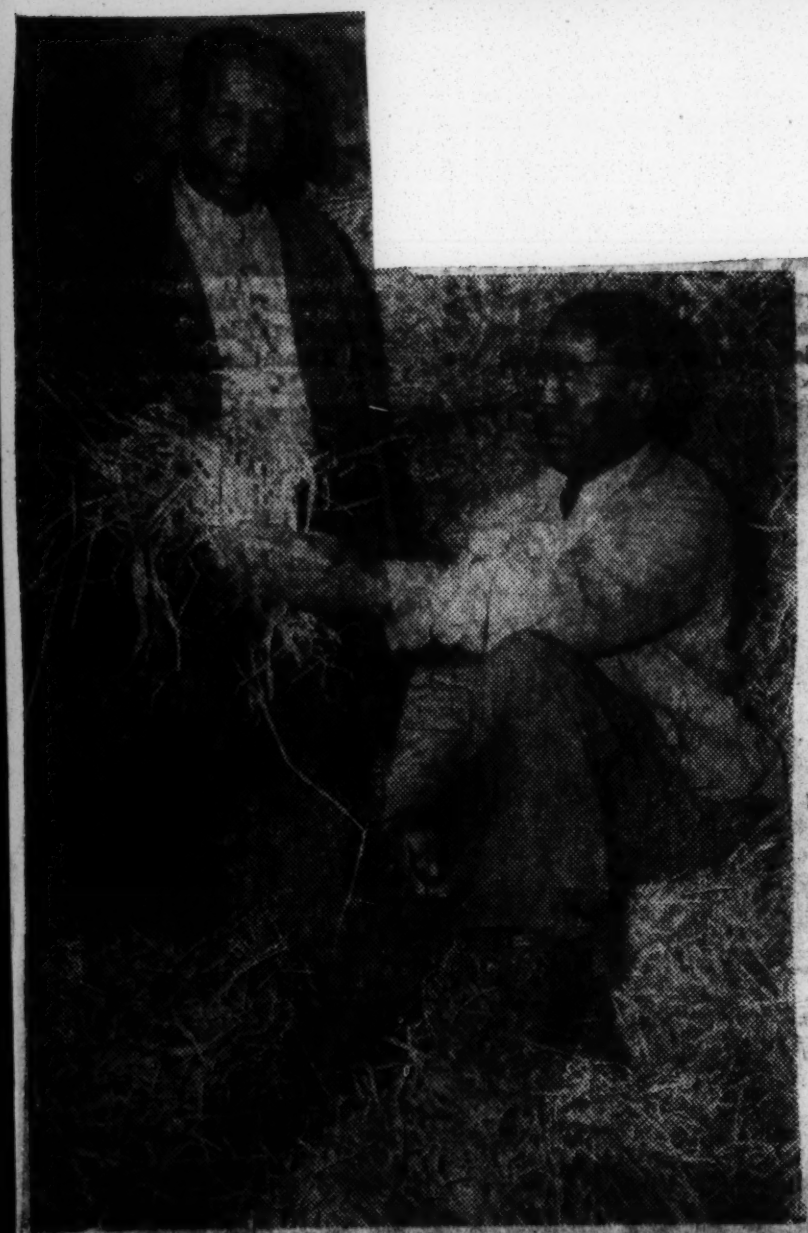
Orr expects to feed more of his hay and corn to his own cattle in the future. He started buying a foundation herd last fall. The 46-year-old farmer had some cattle once before, but sold out when he got a good offer. "You see, I started out backwards," says Mr. Orr, "got my cattle before I developed pastures. Now I got pastures, and this seems to be a good time to get started again, while brood cows are cheap."

After Mr. Orr's failure to raise the steers for workstock, he changed his mind about animal power altogether. "Mules and horses are too slow and expensive," he says. He now owns five tractors, a combine, a corn picker, a one-man hay bailer, a seed drill, a rotary hoe, a cotton blocker, a lime spreader, and a feed chopper. Machinery has cut the manpower requirements of his farm by 75 per cent.

"I got just about everything for mechanized farming," says Mr. Orr, "except a mechanical cotton picker, and I plan to get one of those."

Two tenant families and two hired hands help Mr. and Mrs. Orr farm 600 acres. Of the own only 55 acres they bo 1936 for $5,000 cash. The the land they operate, th from the Tennessee Vall thority. "We are going to l acres from the TVA," M explains, "just as soon as will sell some of this land."

In the meantime, they are not letting lack of full ownership stop them from being good farmers. "They are setting an example in soil conservation and over-all farm efficiency that is hard to beat," says State Leader Hill.



HAY IS ANOTHE[R] CASH crop on the Pleas Orr farm. He produces from 75 to 100 ton per year and sells it to livestock farmers. Once he shipped hay 400 miles to Ringling Brothers Clinic for their best show horses. Orr shows Benjamin Hill (left) retired county agent, the quality of his hay.

MR. AND MRS. PLEAS ORR, jr., of Tanner, Ala., believe in raising a variety of crops. In addition to cotton, hay, corn, vetch and fruits, they sell around 175 hogs a year. Here couple looks over portion of their swine herd.

Former Sharecropper South's Soil Champion

LOG CABIN, Ga.—Claiborne Carter, of Alam, Ala., a former sharecropper, has been named 1953 Soil Conservation champion of the South.

The farmer, who has tripled his corn and cotton yields on land formerly run-down and eroded, was honored last week at the Log Cabin Jamboree.

Carter was a sharecropper until 1938, when the Farmer Home Administration of the U. S. department of Agriculture made him a loan to buy a 160-acre farm of his own.

The Alabaman beat out nine other state soil conservation champions. Runners-up were E. C. Fore, Marion, S. C., second place and Oran Waddleton of Winnsboro, Texas, third place.

Other state winners were John Gammon, jr., Marion, Ark.; Tymlear Sanders, jr., Quincy, Fla.; Arthur Ricks, Mt. Vernon, Ga.; Eugene King, Ruffin, N. C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.; Gilbert Bryant, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and Harvey L. Tuggle, Stuart, Va.

Awards totaling $1,050, made available by Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life, were presented by various leaders. Carter received $150. The others were awarded $100 each.

Farmers And Homemakers Meeting Set At Tuskegee

will gather here for the 62nd Annual Farmers' Conference. J. J. Haggerty, Director, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. D. A., will be the principal speaker.

Farmers and homemakers from most of Alabama's counties, where there are Extension workers and vocational teachers, began pouring into Tuskegee Institute recently for the Fifteenth Annual Farm and Home Short Course. A few came from Georgia and Mississippi.

There is an eagerness noted in their manner that bespeaks their concern over the changing patterns of agriculture which are going on all around them. They have seen the inroads which livestock and mechanization are making on the number of family-sized farms. They are witnessing a falling off in attendance in their community churches and schools, and they are bewildered.

Now they are at Tuskegee Institute to see what they can learn from professional agriculture and home economics leaders to help them with their problems. The theme of the conference is "Making the Family Farm a Better Business."

Specialists from the several agencies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Alabama Extension Service, and other state agencies will join with Dean L. H. Potts and his staff to try to answer some of the farmers' questions.

Topics outlined include: (1) Combining land, labor and capital for obtaining the highest production and profit. (2) Marketing products to the best advantage. (3) Avoiding financial tangles. (4) Money management. (5) Consumer problems.

Specific attention will be given to a restudy of farm enterprises which offer promise in the farm program for 1953.

The homemakers, under the leadership of Dean Mamye L. Powell of the School of Home Economics will join with the men on most of the major topics, because management involves the entire family. In addition, they will study labor saving devices and marketing home products.

Along with the farmers, the Rural Ministers of this area, under the leadership of Rev. V. A. Edwards, Director Religious Extension at Tuskegee Institute, will hold their own special Short Course. They will study the whole area of religious and social readjustment.

The Short Course will conclude with a banquet on Tuesday night at which Hobart Taylor, prominent business man from Houston, Texas, will address the group. On Wednesday, over 3,000 farmers and leaders from six or more Southern States

County Steer Is Champion Of Negro Show

Sale Slated Today For Prize Animals; Hog Winners Listed

A prime Aberdeen-Angus steer took top honors as Grand Champion here in the beef cattle division of the Montgomery Fat Stock Show and Sale for Negro boys and girls here yesterday.

Jessie Richardson, Montgomery County 4-H Club member, was owner of the prize winner.

The reserve champion was a prime Hereford steer, exhibited by Clinton Holmes, also of Montgomery County.

The cattle will be sold today at 9 a.m., along with the prize-winning hogs picked yesterday morning. Jack Walden, Montgomery, will be auctioneer.

The grand champion will lead off the sales.

Joe Wallis Blackwood, 16, member of the Henry County 4-H Club, showed the grand champion hog and also reserve champion.

Only 17 per cent of this year's entries were turned down compared to last year's 45 per cent, P. C. Roquemore, federal grader, said.

County agents and vocational agriculture teachers are in charge of exhibitors from the various schools. Assisting them are T. R. Agnew, state 4-H Club leader for boys, and F. T. McQueen, teacher-trainer, both of Tuskegee.

Judge for the show was director of Agriculture S. H. Settler, Langston University, Langston, Okla. Grader is P. C. Roquemore, Federal - State Market News Service, Montgomery.

W. B. Hill, state leader of Negro extension work, Tuskegee, assisted by A. Ford, vocational agriculture teacher trainer, Tuskegee.

A banquet for show participants was held last night at 7:30 at the Alabama State College dining hall here. President H. C. Trenholm, State College, welcomed the group, and Show Judge S. H. Settler spoke.

The show and sale is the final of three shows and sales held for Alabama's Negro youth groups this year. The first was held at Demopolis, April 8-9, with the second at Decatur, April 13-14. A total of 78 animals was shown and sold in the two events.

The shows are sponsored annually by the chambers of commerce in co-operation with the Agriculture Center Board. The Extension Service and Department of Vocational Agriculture assisting.

Amos Blythers, Barbour County adult competitor, owned the hog named grand champion in the pens of 10. The reserve champion was owned by John H. Fails, Butler County adult. Third place in this division went to W. C. Campbell, Montgomery County adult.

Winners in the lightweight division were William Bonyers, Barbour 4-H, first and second place, and Thomas Brown, Lee County 4-H, third.

Medium weight winners were Joe Wallis Blackwood, first and second place, and Beeman Blythers, Barbour 4-H, third.

In the heavyweight class the winners were Edward Clemon, Autauga 4-H, first; Isaac Butler, Autauga 4-H, second, and Gus Shackefford, Autauga NFA, third.

Negroes Open Livestock Show

About 200 hogs and 100 beef cattle are entered here in the ninth annual Fat Stock Show and Sale for Negro youth in central and south Alabama counties.

The show and sale, held today and tomorrow at the Stock Yards, includes competing 4-H, NFA and NHA members from about 20 counties. Cattle and hogs were brought into the stock yards yesterday for weighing, grooming and examination.

Showing begins at 8:30 this morning, with the champion hog to be picked about 10:30 o'clock. The champion beef cows will be selected this afternoon.

Sales will begin with the grand champion hog coming in the ring at 9 a.m. tomorrow, followed by the reserve champion hog, the champion pen of three hogs, and the grand champion steer.

Director of Agriculture S. H. Settler, Langston University, Langston, Okla., will judge all classes. Grading will be done by P. C. Roquemore, Federal State Market News Service, Montgomery, and the auctioneer will be Col. Tom McCord, of Montgomery. W. B. Hill, state leader of Negro extension work, Tuskegee, will serve as superintendent of the show and sales. He will be assisted by A. Ford, teacher trainer, of the Vocational Agriculture Department, Tuskegee.

The banquet for show participants will be held in the Alabama State College dining hall, beginning at 7:30 Tuesday evening. During the banquet, 4-H, NFA and NHA groups will present a special program featuring music and skits. President H. C. Trenholm, of State College, will welcome the group, and there will be remarks by Show Judge S. H. Settler and others. Mrs. E. Harris Hall, state leader for 4-H girls, will be in charge of the program.

County agents and vocational agriculture teachers will be in charge of exhibitors from their respective counties and schools. They will be assisted by T. R. Agnew, state 4-H Club leader for boys, and F. T. McQueen, teacher trainer, both of Tuskegee.

This will be the final of three shows and sales held for Negro youth groups in Alabama. The first was held at Demopolis April 8-9, with the second being held at Decatur April 13-14. A total of 78 animals was shown and sold in the two events.

All three of the shows are sponsored by local chambers of commerce in co-operation with the Agriculture Center Board. Assistance and supervision are rendered by the Extension Service and the Department of Vocational Agriculture.

CHAMPION SOLD—The Black Angus shown above with his owner netted a price of 45 cents per pound at the Champion Sale for Negro boys and girls here yesterday. The owner, Jesse Richardson, of Montgomery County, won top honors at the show preceding the sale Tuesday. Milford Gentry shown with the boy, bought the prize steer for the Zeigler Packing Company.

Selma Man Buys Top Animals In Annual Negro Stock Show

The champion calves and hogs of the Montgomery County Fat Stock Show and Sale for Negro boys and girls were bought by one man here yesterday.

R. L. Zeigler, Zeigler Packing Company, Selma, purchased the grand champion steer at 45 cents a pound.

Jesse Richardson, Montgomery County 4-H club member, was owner of the calf, a prime Aberdeen Angus steer.

The reserve champion steer, exhibited by Clinton Holmes, Montgomery County 4-H'er, was bought by Zeigler at 36 cents a pound. The calf was a prime Hereford.

The Grand Champion and reserve champion hogs, both owned by Joe Wallis Blackwood of Henry County, were purchased by the Selma meat packer. The grand champion went at 30 cents and the reserve champion at 28.

Issac Butler, Autauga County, sold his champion hog in pens of three for 26 1-2 cents a pound. Reserve champion in that division went for 25 cents a pound.

The champion hog in pens of ten, owned by Amos Blythers, Barbour County, brought 23 1-2 cents a pound. John H. Fails, Butler County, owner of the reserve champion, sold his hog for 23 1-4 cents a pound.

Walden Is Auctioneer

Auctioneer was Jack Walden, Montgomery.

Another heavy buyer at the auction was A & P Company. Other buyers were Swift & Company, Armour & Company, Easy Way Grocery, E. L. Donald for Tuskegee Institute, E. B. Campbell, Alabama State College for Negroes; Kenneth Murray and Company, and the Alabama Commission Company.

Mark W. Johnson, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee, sponsors of the event, commented on the success of the show.

"The fine co-operation we have received will prove a stimulus to these boys and girls, and we can look forward to better quality livestock each year," he said.

P. C. Roquemore, federal grader, said only 17 per cent of this year's entries were turned down as compared with last year's 45 per cent.

Classes Judged

All classes were judged by Director of Agriculture S. H. Settler, Langston University, Langston, Okla.

Superintendent of the show and sale was W. R. Hill, state leader in Negro extension work, Tuskegee Institute. He was assisted by A. Ford, vocational agriculture teacher and trainer, Tuskegee.

THE ART OF THE "NEEDLE AND THREAD"—Well, the subject is Sewing. Miss Irine Bibza, home-econonomist of Opelika, is shown (above) assisting Mrs. Willie C. Lockhart, Lee County home agent standing at extreme right), in a leader-training meeting on clothing. Leaders shown (seated) are, left to right: Mrs. Maggie Wimberly of Auburn, Route 1; Mrs. Mazell Core, of Auburn, Route 2; Mrs. Drucilla George, of Opelika; (Miss Bibza); Mrs. Susie Williams of Opelike, Route 3, and Mrs. Alma Patterson, of Opelika, Route 2. Standing (left to right) are: Mrs. Elnora Aldridge, of Auburn, Route 2; Mrs. Mary Dallas, of Opelika, Route 1; Mrs. Inez Calloway, of Opelika, Route 3; Mrs. Helen Melton, of Opelika, Route 4; Mrs. Pauline Rutledge, of Auburn, Route 1; Miss C. M. Martin, district agent of Tuskegee, and Mrs. Lockhart.

How Negro Farmers in Arkansas Built $70,000 Gin Told in Co-Op Magazine

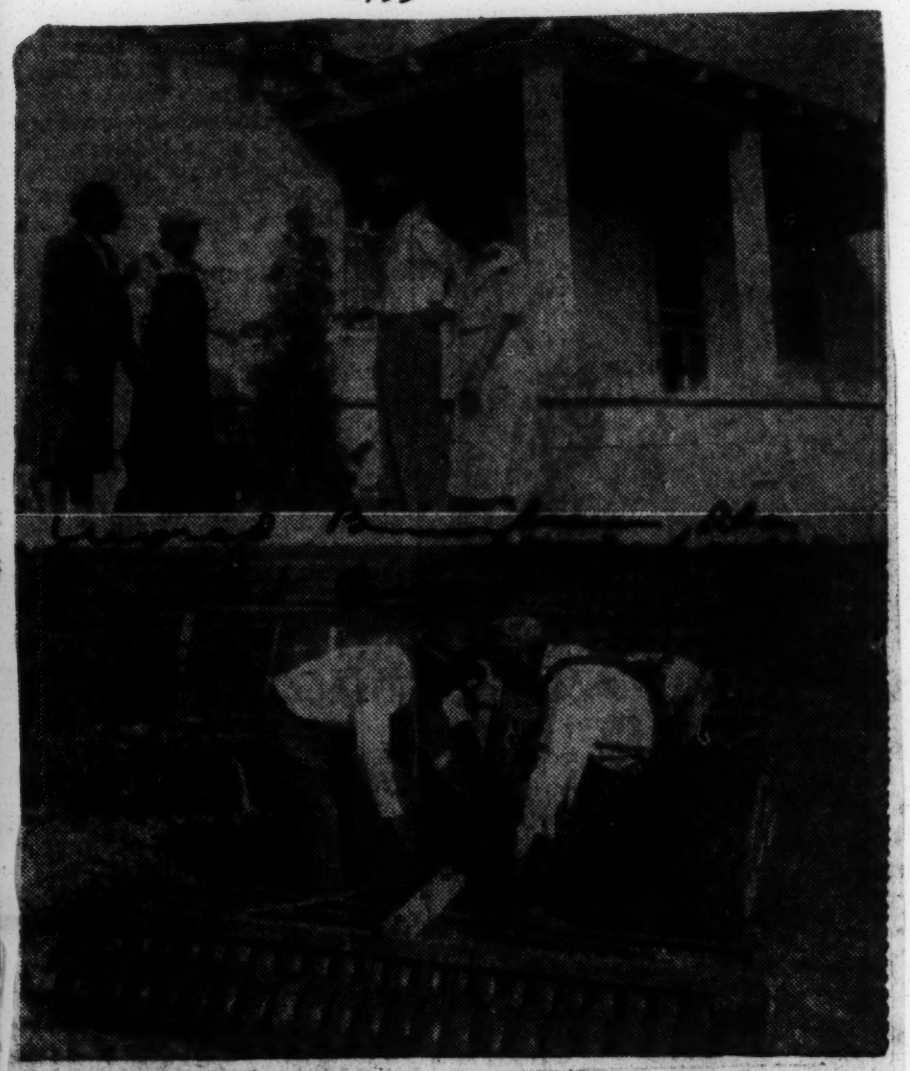
WASHINGTON, D. C. — The story of how a few colored farmers got together and built a $70,000 co-operative cotton gin at Marion, Ark., is reported by A. H. Fuhr in the August issue of "News For Farmer Co-operatives," a publication of the Farm Credit administration.

Mr. Fuhr, an administrative officer of FCA, says it took two years of explaining and pleading by John Gammon, farmer and president of the County Negro Business League, and other farm leaders to get the project started. And even then some of the farmers wanted to back out because they were afraid of the reaction of the other three ginners in Marion.

But the leaders of the co-op thought that the colored farmers ought to have their own gin. Finally by the spring of 1948 they had succeeded in raising $30,000 which they plunked down on a $70,000 modern gin. In September of the same year, the first bale of cotton rolled on to the platform, and the co-op was in business.

Not a single one of the other ginners has ever said a word against the co-op, Mr. Gammon reports. And the Negro gin has made money every year, enough to pay dividends to the 45 preferred stockholders, and allow a rebate of $3.50 a bale on all cotton ginned by both common and preferred stockholders. There are 75 of the former.

On an average, the gin has been processing about 2,000 bales of cotton a year. At present, it takes 1,500 bales to meet all obligations. The rate for ginning is about $12 per bale.



THE LESLIE PRIDES . . . . TOP FLORENCE FARMERS — Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Pride of Florence, Rte. 2, worked 30-odd years as tenant farmers. But, finally, with the insistence of their Extension agents Miss S. L. McClenan (far right) and C. G. Leslie (second from right), the Prides bought a 60-acre farm. Last year (1952), the Lauderdale County couple built and moved into a new home. Now the agents are helping them with landscaping plans.

Leslie is seen (in bottom photo) helping Mr. Pride hitch his cultipacker to the tractor. Although the Prides grow cotton, the popular farmer has established lots of good pasture and grazing for livestock. He has made good use of the tractor and cultipacker in developing pasture and grazing crops.

2 Tennessee Valley Farm Experts Retire After 60 Years Of Service

Defender P. 13 Chicago Dat. 1-17-53

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Two extension agents, who helped pioneer diversified farming in the Tennessee Valley authority area, have retired after a total of 60 years of service, reports State Leader W. B. Hill of the Alabama Extension service.

They are Benjamin Franklin Hill and Mrs. Ella B. McKissack, farm and home demonstration agents of Limestone county, Ala., Hill had served 36 years, and Mrs. McKissack, 24 years.

Together, these two agents played an important part in the diversification of farming in a TVA section which was formerly devoted almost entirely to cotton.

They have encouraged many of the 872 Negro farmers in the county to go into dairying and swine production. In recognition of their work, they have received a number of trophies. Also, the county built for them a modern six-room office headquarters.

Hill, who was graduated from Tuskegee in 1909 with a diploma in veterinary science, went directly to Limestone county and began doctoring horses and mules on farms and plantations. His reputation as a veterinarian soon spread and he was in demand all over the county.

The Alabama State Extension service, which was established after the passage of the Smith-Lever act in 1914, decided to make his services available to all the farmers in the county by appointing him farm demonstration agent. He held this position until his retirement a few weeks ago.

Mr and Mrs. Hill made their home in Athens, a town in the center of Limestone county. They have two daughters and a granddaughter. One of their daughters has a Ph.D degree and teaches in Alabama A and M college, and the other holds a government position in Washington.

RETIRES AFTER 36 YEARS—Benjamin F. Hill (left) who helped pioneer diversified farming in Limestone County, Ala., retires after 36 years' service as a farm demonstration agent. He is being congratulated by State Extension Leader W. B. Hill. Pennant on wall marks one of his achievements in the promotion of dairying and livestock production.

Both Hill and Mrs. McKissack are natives of Mississippi. She was trained at Tuskegee and Fisk university and became a home demonstration agent in 1928.

Summary Of Milam County Home Demonstration Work

The principle problems which determined the county program for 1952 were: Poor diets, inadequately clothed families, poor housing, and surroundings, poor health and sanitation and the need for trained leaders.

The major demonstrations carried in the county were, Home Production of Family Food, garden phase, and clothing for both women and girls. Our goals were: 1. To train more leaders, 2. To establish principles of how to make and buy clothes; and 3. to encourage each family to grow a home garden, and to develop better food habits by teaching the essentials of a well-balanced diet by the use of the Texas Food Standard.

The County council which is made up of representatives from each club held 12 meetings during the year with officers and a total of 370 women in attendance. Four officer training meetings were held with 15 in attendance.

In order to keep the county informed 3 delegates were sent to the district meeting and 5 were sent to the State Council meeting and Short Course at Prairie View A and M College.

The following events were sponsored by the council: National National Home Demonstration Week, County 4-H Dress Revue, County 4-H Club Day, National 4-H Club week. The council's Fifteenth Anniversary, Adult Achievement Program and Exhibit, 4-H National Achievement Day, and a Christmas Social.

The 4-H Advisory Committee is responsible for planning the 4-H club program along with the county agent, and 4-H club girls from the local clubs.

New officers were trained for the 14 4-H clubs at five training meetings with 75 in attendance. Each club has one or more adult leaders. Four leader training meetings were held for 4-H adult leaders and method demonstrations given to fifty-five women working with 4-H club girls. These women trained 250 4-H club girls.

These leaders supervised the following activities: 4-H county camp, 4-H Dressmaking, for dress revue, roar of State Fair at Dallas (Thirty-seven 4-H'ers attending along with five adult leaders), 4-H records, and demonstrations.

Two girls attended State Camp, four attended District Camp and fo rteen attended the Tri-County (Brazos Falls and Milam).

With more trained leaders, 4-H club work reached a new high during the year.

"A garden for every family" was the slogan of the women and girls of the county. They felt that plenty of vegetables would improve the diets of their families.

The Home Demonstration Agent, Martha P. Renfro, trained 295 women and 240 girls in the following: Planning the home garden, seed selection and treatment, planting and transplanting, new varieties, cultivation, insect control, and selecting garden tools. Garden sprayers and dusting guns were loaned by local seed stores for demonstration work.

Three hundred and fifty families grew gardens. Ninety-six 4-H club girls grew enough of one vegetable for the family. Fifty-six 4-H club girls canned 170 quarts of vegetables and fruits, froze 350 quarts, and 310 pounds.

As a result of training given on food preservation and storage 35 women and girls saved their surplus vegetables and fruits. The women conserved large amounts of meat also. A survey of pantries by home visits, and from local club reports revealed 215 women canned 3200 quarts of vegetables and fruits, and meats. They also froze 2 quarts of fruit and vegetables and 2500 lbs of poultry and meats.

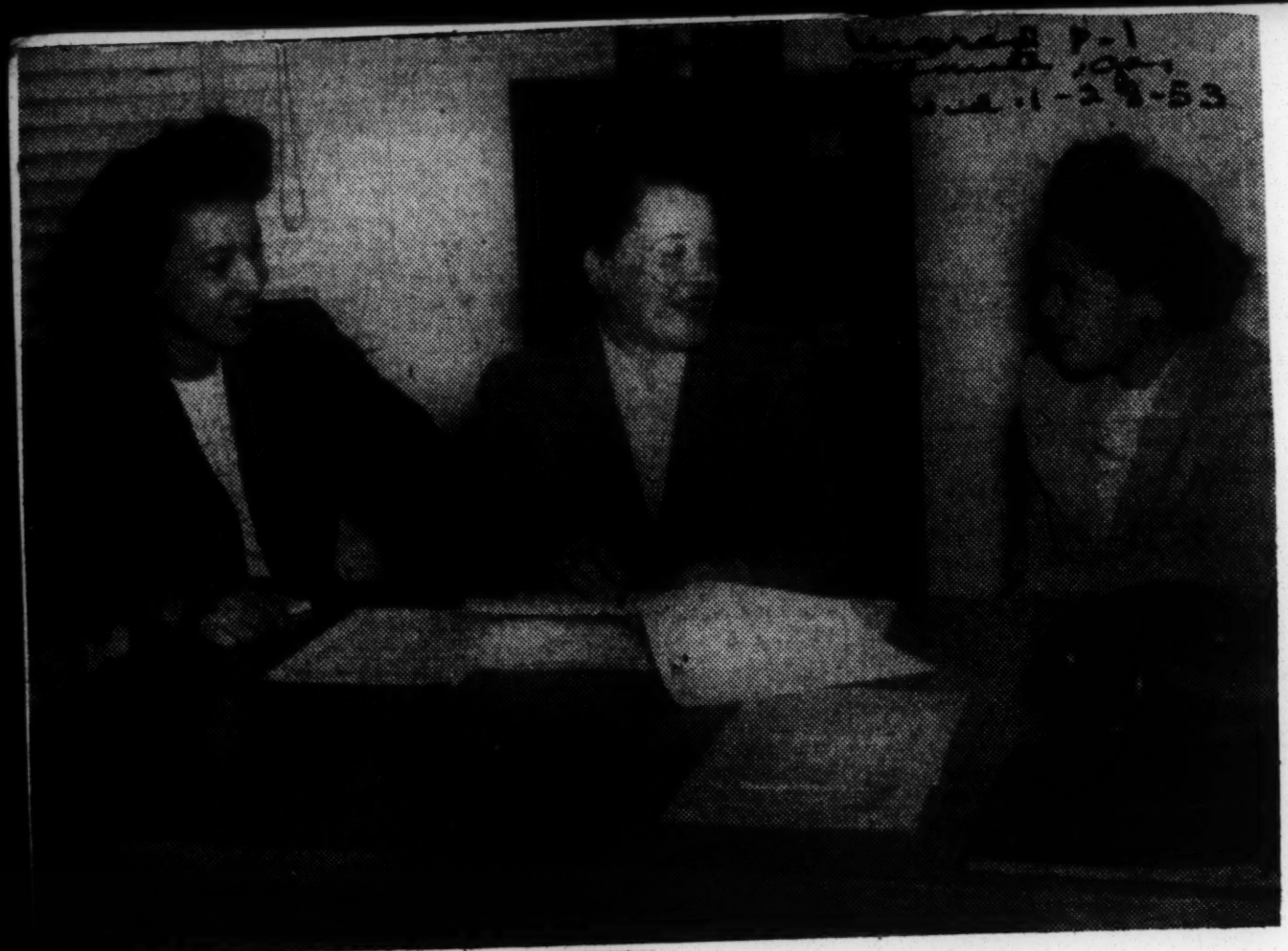
A successful fresh and canned vegetable show was held in the county agent's office which scored higher in quality as compared to other years.

Dress Revue. One hundred and sixty girls had clothing projects and 150 completed them, making 651 garments and renovating 51.

Diets are improved, and families are better clothed as a result of this year's work. Trained leadership has paid off.

One hundred twenty-five girls and 200 women were given training in meal planning using the Texas Food Standard as a guide. They were also trained in cooking and serving vegetables and completing menus. One hundred and fifty women reported having prepared vegetables by improved methods. Seventy-five said they used "plate meals." Eighty-five girls learned to set the table correctly, and to cook vegetables to retain their food value. One hundred women now plan balanced meals.

Ten leaders gave training to one hundred thirty-five women and sixty girls. Four hundred women and girls studied the Texas Food Standard as a guide. Training was given in Clothing to two hundred fifty girls and 315 women on: Pattern selection, choosing colors, selecting fabrics, garment construction, sewing nylons, and making ...



NEW APPOINTEE ON THE JOB — Mrs. Ezelle M. Gregory, center, the first Negro district home demonstration agent to be appointed by the Maryland Extension Service, is shown going over annual plans of work with two of her agents. They are Miss Ruth I. Johnson, left, of Montgomery County; and Mrs. Hattie G. Holmes, right, of Prince Georges County. Mrs. Gregory formerly served as district agent with the Texas Extension Service. — (USDA Photo)

News Of Colored People

By MARY K. FRAZIER

As the Extension Service celebrates a half-century of farm progress, the part played in the early 50 years by Tuskegee Institute is important. Booker T. Washington, founder, saw the need of extending the teaching and influence of the institution to those who could not, or did not attend school.

His first effort to reach these people who were not enrolled in school was by holding monthly group meetings at the institute for farmers, ministers and other interested persons. Through exhibits and discussions, Washington and his associates attempted to teach these rural people better farm and home practices.

The first Annual Negro Farmers Conference was held at Tuskegee Institute in February 1892. This first conference was attended by 500 farm people. Washington presided and gave those present the opportunity to present their problems and helped them find solutions to them. This conference became an annual affair, which in later years, attracted farmers and rural leaders from all parts of the South.

* * *

GEO. WASHINGTON Carver, noted Negro chemist, was induced by B. T. Washington to come to Tuskegee in 1896 to organize and head a department of agriculture. After long hours of work in his laboratory, Carver would place some demonstration tools and materials in a buggy on Saturday afternoons and drive out into the rural areas to talk with and give helpful demonstration to interested farm groups.

In early 1906. Washington appointed a committee, headed by Carver, to draw up plans for a demonstration wagon with equipment to be used in teaching farm people who lived near Tuskegee Institute. The plans became a reality when Morris K. Jesup of New York City donated funds to purchase and equip this wagon, known as "The Jesup Agricultural Wagon"—the first "Moveable School." (To be continued. By W. B. Hill, State Leader for Negro Work.)

News Of Colored People

By MARY K. FRAZIER

Extension Service celebrates half-century of farm progress: Four-H Club Work, with Negroes, began officially with the appointment of P. C. Parks, club agent, Aug. 1, 1915. He was assigned to North Alabama, with headquarters at Tuskegee in May, 1918. C. M. Kynette, the first 4-H Club Agent for Negro boys was appointed Aug. 1, 1919. He was succeeded by V. C. Turner in 1927, who served until 1945. He was succeeded by T. R. Agnew. Thelma Dick was appointed the first state 4-H Club agent for Negro girls in 1937.

Negro County and Home Demonstration Agents are now employed in 36 of the 67 counties in Alabama. The state staff members who supervise and assist these agents in planning and conducting Extension work with Negro farm people in Alabama are: C. A. Williams and G. W. Taylor, district agricultural agents; Ruth L. Rivers and Clermin[illegible] Martin, district home demonstration agents; T. R. Agnew, state 4-H Club agent for boys; Ethel H[illegible]ll, state 4-H Club agent for girls; Joseph Bradford, assistant editor. W. B. Hill.

Home Demonstration Agents Honored For Long Service

Mrs. Annie Wimbs of Jackson Co. (reading from left) Mrs. Eva Gordon, of Pike County, Mrs. Bessie Gay of Leflore County, and Mrs. Wilda Bowden of Oktibbeha County. Home demonstration agents of long tenure of services were honored here last Wednesday night, at College Park Clubhouse when Mrs. Willie Lathan Taylor, president of the Mississippi Home Demonstration Agent's Association presented beautiful pink carnations [illegible]. Their district supervisors Mrs. Daisey Lewis and Mrs. Ethelene L. Gray cited to the group some of their most outstanding accomplishments then presented each a silver tray in behalf of the Miss. Home Dem. Agent's Ass'n. A gay evening affair provided by a joint effort of the Mississippi County Agent's Association and the Mississippi Home Demonstration Agent's Association followed which consisted games, dancing, delectable titbits and fun lasting until the wee hours of the morning. Music was by the Alcorn College orchestra.

Extension Workers Get New $125,000 Home

RALEIGH, N. C. — (ANP) — The Rowan County Negro agricultural extension and library workers have a new home. The new center was dedicated recently in Salisbury. Constructed at a cost of more than $125,000, this modern building now houses the Negro branch of the county library and the farm and home demonstration agents offices which were formerly located in a four-room house on the same site.

Giving the principal address at the dedication ceremony was Carey H. Bostian chancellor of North Carolina State College. Bostian, a native of Rowan county, was introduced by Ruth Current, state home demonstration agent and also a Rowan county native.

Mrs. Annie Johnson, Negro home agent, said the dedication of the new Extension Building and Library for Negro educational work in Rowan county mark a milestone of progress in the self-help activities of these progressive rural people.

"The building is modern in its design and artistic in its treatment," said Mrs. Johnson.

Early Demonstration By Extension Service

This picture, taken more than 30 years ago, shows farmers receiving scientific information on corn production from their county agent. The group meeting is being held in a corn field owned by a farmer who grew the crop to demonstrate the value of the good practices recommended by his county agent.

Extension Service 50th Anniversary

South Alabamian
Thurs. 10-8-53

On this its golden anniversary the Extension Service program is still quite young with bright prospects for many years of even greater progress and ahievement ahead.

For the past 50 years this program of scientific farming for better living has been carried by Extension farm and home agents into every agricultural area in the country. These leaders are always on hand to offer assistance in rural improvement and in solving any problems that arise.

The idea of actually demonstrating the value of scientific research in farming was born in 1903 on Walter Porter's farm near Terrell, Texas. Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, planted the idea. Local businessmen, with $1000 in cash to cover possible losses of Mr. Porter, backed the test demonstration. And all of us in this country, plus millions of our friends abroad, continue to reap a bountiful harvest every year from the experiment of these agricultural pioneers.

The best way to convince farmers to apply scientific facts in farming is to show them on their own farms that these facts pay off. That was the plan in 1903. And it's still that simple in 1953.

Each modern farm family is greatly influenced by this idea of on-the-spot test demonstrations. And now 50 years after its birth it is still the most effective way to get them and their neighbors to use new scientific information developed for both field and home. Guided by the youthful and ever advancing Extension program, farm people over the nation today enjoy the highest standard of rural living in the world.

Farm Experts Take Stock Of '52

Like most other Americans, the Nation's 582,000 colored farmers are taking stock of their successes and failures during 1952 and setting goals for the new year, say Field Agents T. M. Campbell and John W. Mitchell of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

On the success side of the ledger, say these two agricultural leaders, is the increased interest in improved pastures and higher corn yields.

Their figures show that within the last two years, colored farmers have developed more than a quarter of a million acres of first rate pastures, and more than 20,000 have taken part in 100-Bushel Corn clubs.

Along with better pastures and greater corn production, which are the foundation of livestock farming, has come a series of steps toward increased efficiency of the farm.

These include the use of cover crops, more fertilizer, and other soil and water conservation practices designed to keep their land highly productive.

More Efficiency

Also, colored farmers, like most other operators, are planting hybrid corn and disease resistant varieties of other field crops, and are carrying out sound insect control measures.

They are increasing their efficiency, too, say the field agents by obtaining more tractors and other modern equipment.

Among the long range efforts, assert Campbell and Mitchell, is the continuing drive to get away from one-crop farming. They say it's getting harder and harder to find a farmer who is putting all his eggs in one cotton or tobacco basket.

As examples, the two leaders point to thousands of farmers like Monroe Fluellen of Fort Valley, Ga., who raises a variety of crops such as cotton, cattle, hogs, poultry, peanuts, hay, wheat, sugarcane, corn, and such truck crops as tomatoes, string beans, peas, sweetpotatoes, okra and cantaloups.

REVIEW FARMERS' PROGRESS—Field Agents T. M. Campbell and John W. Mitchell of the U.S. Department of Agriculture study Extension Service reports which reveal progress of Negro farmers in 1952. The two farm leaders work with extension supervisors in the 17 Southern states.

Makes Brooms

Or they cite others like Nute Smith of Marianna, Ark., who turns out six dozen brooms a day in addition to farming cotton and raising livestock.

Or still others like Andrew Bowers of Bacom, Fla., who has a grade-A dairy along with his cotton, peanuts, hogs and timber.

They say Bowers has been planting a few hundred trees every year since 1940. Ultimately, this will be one of his important cash crops.

As a result of diversification and better farming methods, say Mitchell and Campbell, has come another important sign of progress among colored farmers—the trend toward better housing and better living.

The Otherside

But all is not rosy, they add. While about a fourth of the colored farmers are making real progress, some of the rest are not doing well, even failing.

One of the main causes of failure is the lack of acres for a sound farming program. While the average size of farms operated by white farmers in the South is about 160 acres, that for colored farmers is less than 50 acres, much of which is eroded and unproductive.

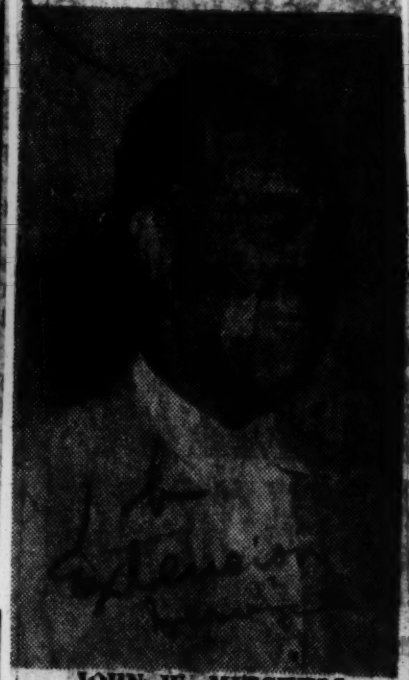
On the deficit side, too, is the loss of 6,000 farms in the South since 1945 when the ownership figure for the region stood at 189,232.

However, the field agents point out that the number of part owners—those who rent additional land to that they own—increased by nearly 13,000 or 50 percent since 1945. This indicates a tendency toward larger farms, they say.

Another reason assigned for failure is the lack of capital to purchase land, livestock, equipment, fertilizer, insecticides, and other materials.

A fourth reason for failure is poor management. Mitchell and Campbell say some farmers are trying to back into livestock farming, getting the cattle and hogs before they develop feed resources.

Mitchell Made Top Ag Agent



JOHN W. MITCHELL

WASHINGTON —Promotion of John W. Mitchell, extension service field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to the newly created national leader on the staff of the director of cooperative extension work was announced this week by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson.

Mitchell, who began work for extension service as a buggy-driving emergency agricultureal agent in two North Carolina counties 36 years ago, is the first Negro extension worker to be promoted to national leader.

His headquarters will be transferred from Hampton institute, Hampton, Va., to the department here in Washington by Sept. 15.

The promotion broadens the scope of Mitchell's duties from regional to national level. And although the larger part of his work will still be with state extension directors and Negro extension supervisors in the South, he also will counsel with Extension director C. M. Ferguson on national problems relevant to the agency's program.

As an extension career employe Mitchell has worked his way up through the ranks from emergency agent to county agent, to district agent and then to state extension agent in Negro work in North Carolina.

From that post he joined the federal staff as field agent in 1943, succeeding the late John B. Pierce.

For his work in North Carolina, Mitchell was awarded a number of signal honor. Last spring the U. S. Department of Agriculture gave him a Superior Service Award "for his contribution to the development of effective and practical Extension work for Negro farm families."

Mitchell was born in Morehead City, N. C., and is a graduate of Agricultural and Technical college, Greensboro, N. C. Also, he holds a master's degree from Central university, Indianapolis, Ind., and an honorary doctorate from Livingstone college, Salisbury, N. C.

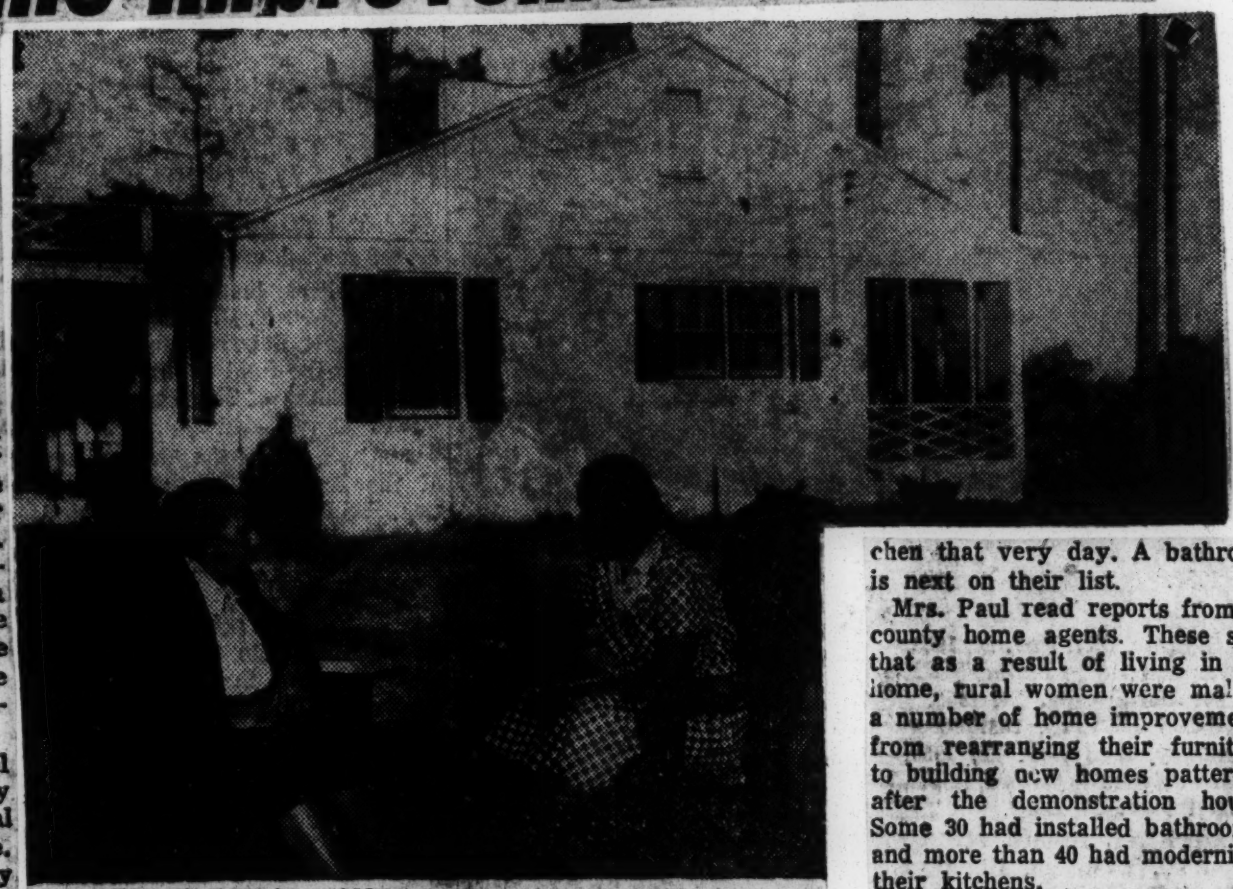
The national leader of extension work is married and has six grown children. One of his sons, Talmadge is in extension work.

He is serving as county agent of Pitt County, N. C. Talmadge is a graduate of Tennessee A and I State university and holds an M.S. degree from Kansas State college.

1b 1953

EXTENSION SERVICE

S. C. Demonstration House Speeds Rural Home Improvement Program



THIS MODEL RURAL HOME in which farm women live for short periods and learn modern methods of homemaking, is rapidly changing the face of South Carolina. Since it was built a little over a year ago, 122 rural women have lived in the home and about 500 farm men and women have visited it for parties and dinners. Seated on lawn are Mrs. Mattie L. Eaddy and Mrs. B. J. Bradley, both of Kingstree.

WASHINGTON — A year-old South Carolina demonstration house in which colored farm women live for brief periods, learn modern homemaking methods, and whet their appetites for better homes is speeding up rural home improvement in that state, and providing a pattern which other States might adopt.

I have just returned from a 10-day tour of some of the farming areas of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida where I observed a continued drive toward better farm housing to replace the shacks which still far out-number reasonably adequate rural homes.

South Carolina seems to be leading the procession largely as a result of its demonstration house which was established a little over a year ago near Kingstree with the aid of the General Education Board.

Since its opening the model house has served as a weekly vacation cottage for 122 rural women from all over theState. Accompanied by their county women from all over the State. Accompanied by their county home demonstration agent, the women have come to the home in groups of four or five to live like a family for a five-day period. Each homemaker performs a different household chore every day. This given them an opportunity to learn all phases of modern homemaking.

"For some of these women, it's their first opportunity to live in a modern home," says Mrs. Marian R. Paul, state supervisor of Negro home demonstration work and founder of the demonstration house.

She points out that when the ladies return home they miss the modern kitchen, the washing machine, the bathroom with hot and cold running water, and other modern conveniences.

And, she says, they are seldom satisfied until they acquire most of these facilities for their own

The day I visited the model home with Mrs. Paul and Mrs. Willie P. Washington, assistant state supervisor, home agents from three counties were there with some of their farmers, homemakers, and 4-H'ers. We all had dinner together. Everything except the baked chicken and hot rolls came right out of the demonstration garden in back of the house.

After dinner, we sat around the table and talked about the house community improvement. "The first effect the house had," said B. J. Bradley a farmer and local minister, "was on the church next door. They have now painted the church, seeded grass in the yard, and they have on a drive to get indoor toilets."

The Bradleys live in an attractive white cottage across a field from the model house. Said Mrs. Bradley, who spoke up next, "We thought our house was something until they built this one. Now we are trying to catch up."

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley have just bought a new electric range a refrigerator, and kitchen cabinets. And Bradley was painting the kitchen that very day. A bathroom is next on their list.

Mrs. Paul read reports from 17 county home agents. These said that as a result of living in the home, rural women were making a number of home improvements from rearranging their furniture to building new homes patterned after the demonstration house. Some 30 had installed bathrooms, and more than 40 had modernized their kitchens.

The following day, Mrs. Eva Lawrence, the home agent of Williamsburg county, and Mrs. Rosa Gadson, the home agent of Georgetown county took Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Washington, and me to visit some of these homes. Among them was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Simmons who live on the outskirts of Georgetown.

They had installed a bathroom and modernized their kitchen since Mrs. Simmons returned from her stay in the model home last November. Mrs. Simmons had done much of the work herself, including the construction of kitchen cabinets, and the laying of tile on the kitchen and bathroom floors and walls.

Mr. and Mrs. David Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bryant of the Sampit community had made similar improvements. And Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moultrie had built a new brick home — the first brick home owned by a Negro farmer in the entire county.

Mrs. Paul estimates that more than a fourth of the 21,000 Negro farm owners in South Carolina will have bathrooms and modern kitchens within five years. "It's like a chain reaction," she said, "in every community from which a homemaker has stayed in the model house, she and others have made improvements."

Ten years ago, only 89 colored farm families in the state had bathrooms. Within a year, 32 have been added to that number.

I also saw excellent examples of home improvements among colored farm families of Georgia and Florida. State Agent. P. H. Stone took me to visit Mr. and Mrs. George Wright of Munnerlyn, Ga.

Mr. Wright attended a housing school conducted by Extension service two years ago. There he learned to lay bricks, paint, and do a little carpentry work, His home was freshly painted, brick pillars had been put under the sagging porch, and he had built kitchen cabinets.

In Florida, the district agents, J. A. Gresham and Miss Floy Britt, took me to see Mr. and Mrs. Talley Watson of Fort White and four other families. The Watsons down two-room shack into a modern concrete block rambler with carport and metal awnings. Watson was mowing his spacious lawn of St. Augustine grass with a gasoline mower.

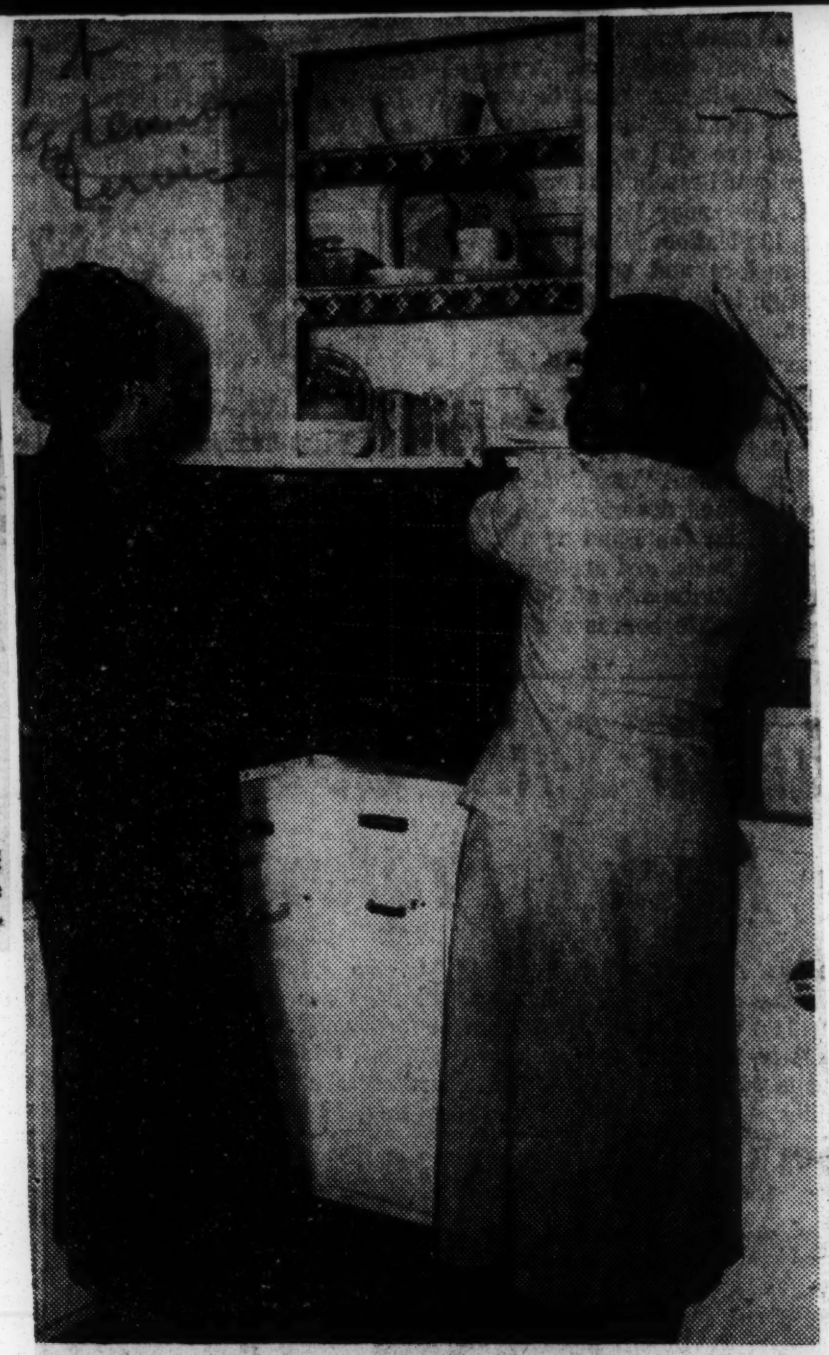
Across the field, almost grown up in weeds, stood the old cabin. "You know," said Mrs. Watson, "we used to live in that old house." It seemed even hard for her to believe.

Yes, rural colored families in home improvements. Of course, the vast majority still live in broken-down shacks, but they are not satisfied with such housing.

Some landlords are building comfortable housing for their tenants, and many owners are either remodeling their old homes, or building new ones as rapidly as they obtain the means.

"Now that we are no longer counting on just one crop," said Granderson Cobb of Midville, Ga., "we can afford to take chances with part of our money and build better homes and things like that."

THERE WAS ONE THING above all else Mrs. Joe Bryant wanted after her stay in the model home. That was a bathroom and she got it. Bathing 5-year-old Joe, jr., is so convenient now. The Bryants have a modern kitchen, too.



MRS JEFF SIMMONS (right) of Georgetown, S. C., got a taste for a modern kitchen and bathroom during her week's stay in the demonstration building last November. So determined was she to have these that she did most of the work herself, except the plumbing. Here, she shows her homemade kitchen cabinets to Mrs. Marian B. Paul, state supervisor of Negro home demonstration work and founder of the model home.

Maryland Gets Extension Service District Agent

WASHINGTON — Appointment of the first Negro district home demonstration agent in Maryland has been announced by the Maryland State Extension Service in a report received last week by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The agent is Mrs. Ezelle M. Gregory who resigned from a similar supervisory position in Texas to accept the newly created post in Maryland on January 1. She will supervise seven home demonstration agents in eight counties and the city of Baltimore. These workers homemakers with problems in home management and home improvement, such as meal planning, food preservation, and the purchasing, making, and repairing of clothing.

Mrs. Gregory says one of her first jobs will be the development of a home demonstration and 4-H club program program to meet some of the major needs of homemakers. She says she expects conferences with the homemakers to reveal a need for increased emphasis on nutrition and consumer education.

The district agent was reared in Texarkana, Texas, and was graduated from Prairie View A. & M. college, Prairie View, Texas, in 1938 with a degree in home economics. She has done graduate work in her field at the University of Minnesota.

Her experience in home demonstration work goes back to 1940 when she was appointed home demonstration agent in Navarro County, Texas, with headquarters at Corsicana. She later held a similar position in Tarrant County with headquarters at Fort Worth. And during the height of the wartime food emergency, the home economist supervised food conservation activities in 18 northeast Texas counties. Since 1949, she has served as district home agent of these same counties.

Mrs. Gregory's appointment brings the Maryland Negro Extension staff up to 16 — seven home agents, seven farm agents, and two supervisors.

Mrs. Queenie Carter, chairman of the program committee outlined the program for the ensuing months. She listed as topics to be discussed by leaders in the various fields, Insurance, real estate contracts, politics and mock election.

The program for the evening was a panel discussion on "Juvenile Delinquency," led by Mrs. Queenie Carter with Mrs. Charlotte Richards, Mrs. Ruth Brandon and Mrs. Genevie Fisher as speaker. he panTel members concluded theri discussion by submitting plans for a Juvenile Conference Committee as a local agency in this cause.

The council meets each fourth Thursday at Tandy Center, 8 p.m.

T. M. Campbell Pioneer Field Agent, Retires

(Special to the World)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala — T. M. Campbell, first U. S. Negro field agent of the United States Department of Agriculture Extension Service, has retired after 38 years of service.

Mr. Campbell served at Tuskegee during the administration of Booker T. Washington, R. R. Moton and Frederick Douglass Patterson. He gained Southwide recognition for his work in developing rural homes and raising the standard of living for farm workers. During his years of tenure, Mr. Campbell pleaded for diversified crops, better education for the children of farm families and for increased economic returns from agricultural products.

Mr. Campbell was appointed as a field worker with the Agriculture Extension in 1906 in the capacity of a local agent in Macon County, Alabama.

His first assignment was in charge of the "Jessup Wagon" an extension-type school on wheels, to carry education in agriculture to the homes of farm families in the area.

From this simple beginning nearly 47 years ago, Mr. Campbell continued to dedicate himself to extension work and rounded out a productive career in the capacity of field agent for eight Southern states.

Extension work among colored farmers had its inception in Alabama. Heading the list of those approving Mr. Campbell's work in the field were Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, Dr. Washington and Dr. George Washington Carver.

After the passing of the Smith-Lever act—1914, allocating extension work to the state, Mr. Campbell cemented relationships between Tuskegee Institute and the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

He worked with Dr. J. E. Duggar, teacher and agricultural author who was Alabama's first extension director.

This cooperation continued throughout the year. Mr. Campbell recalls that the late Dr. L. N. Duncan, Alabama Extension Director, who among other reforms approved a recommendation for the appointment of a full-time staff of Colored State Supervising agents with headquarters at Tuskegee Institute. Five states followed suit after Alabama took this step.

Through a cooperative arrangement between the Alabama Extension Service and the Federal government a modern 17-room brick extension office building, provided with adequate storage rooms, library and assembly room with seating capacity for 300 was

Tom Campbell's Fine Career

A government rule that an employe under civil service must retire at the age of 70 has ended the active work in that capacity of Thomas M. Campbell, field agent for the Department of Agriculture. But it by no means ends the activity and influence of a fine and good life.

There are a number of "firsts" in Mr. Campbell's career. He was the first Negro to become a farm field agent in the United States. He was the first to become a colored state supervising agent. He originated many methods for helping Negroes to become better farmers.

It was in 1899 when Tom Campbell, a lad in his teens working for white farmers in Eastern Georgia, heard about Tuskegee Institute. He determined to study there. He saved up enough for train fare. When he reached the institute he had only 15 cents in his pocket. But he had ambition, mental alertness, energy, enthusiasm and a great desire to improve the lot of himself and other Negroes.

The story is told that when the Tuskegee registrar was trying to fit Tom Campbell into a course, he asked him if he wanted to study farming. The lad said no, that he guessed he knew enough about that. "How about agriculture?" the registrar asked. "Well, now, that sounds pretty good," the young student replied. And so, after all, he studied farming.

So well did he study, so much did he impress his teachers, that in 1906 young Tom Campbell was made the first Negro farm agent. He began his work at Tuskegee Institute. About all he had in the way of an office at first was his hat and a wagon he had fitted up to demonstrate improved farm life and farming methods. Today, 47 years later, Alabama alone has 72 Negro agricultural agents, and their activities are directed from a modern 17-room brick office buildi

But Mr. Campbell's work grew. He is retiring as head of the work in eight Southern states, with 859 Negro farm agents. And all over the South, and even beyond, men of all elements of society honor him for his constructive labors. His efforts have been founded on the conviction that by helping the Negro to be a better farmer, he was contributing to the well-being of all the South. He has believed in America, the America that had given him, one of the poorest of the poor, a chance.

He believes in work as the cure for most social ills. That is why it is hard to think of him as retired. But *The News* has no doubt that even in retirement he will find a way to help Negro farmers. Tom Campbell is that kind of a person. And it is a good kind, a very good kind.

Tom Campbell Retires

A FEW weeks ago the venerable and distinguished Thomas M. Campbell of Tuskegee Institute, originator of the movable school and pioneer in agricultural education, retired for age.

Long a field agent of the Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Tom Campbell made as great a contribution in his way as Dr. Booker T. Washington and Dr. George Washington Carver.

For forty-seven years he dedicated himself to carrying to the simple, unschooled farmers of eight Southern states the know-how of successful agriculture and the general improvement of country life.

He simplified the erudite findings of agricultural experts to the point where the ordinary rural man could understand them and put them into practice for personal profit and local improvement.

Here was real mass education where it was most needed, inaugurated long years before it began to be practiced either in this country or abroad, and pushed forward, incidentally, by a dedicated interracial staff.

Now rich in years, Tom Campbell can see throughout the countryside the fruits of his long and faithful labor in the unprecedented prosperity and farm ownership of rural Negroes, which is a far cry from the situation when he came on the scene in 1906.

In place of the windowless, unpainted shacks, the broken fences, the scrawny stock, the malnourished children, the ruined soil and the almost complete ignorance of scientific farming that then prevailed, the visitor in the rural South today finds neat homes, fenced and terraced farms, fertilized and rotated crops, diversity in production, fat and sleek stock, and a standard of health and education unsurpassed in any rural areas abroad.

For most of this Tom Campbell and his loyal associates, white and colored, deserve the credit, along with the Agriculture Department's Extension Service. The New South is largely their handiwork.

The greatest tribute to this devoted band of pioneers is the imitation of their methods in every agriculturally backward area in the world.

Tom Campbell, Pioneer Extension Agent, Retires

TUSKEGEE — (ANP) — Thomas M. Campbell, the pioneer Negro extension agent, retired as a field agent of the U. S. Extension service last week after 47 years of service. Campbell, a notable figure in the development of better methods of farming among the Negro population of the South served in a supervisory capacity over eight states in the deep south, his headquarters being at Tuskegee Institute.

Graduating from Tuskegee institute as an agriculturist in 1906 Campbell began as a local agent under the supervision of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, generally regarded as the originator of extension work among farmers. Dr. George Washington Carver as a close associate of Dr. Knapp in the early efforts at teaching farmers better methods and more abund-

Campbell was an associate of ant living.

Dr. Booker T. Washington, Dr. R. R. Moton and Dr. Carver, all of them supporting his efforts heartily with Dr. Carver being an actual collaborator.

Campbell, writing to C. C. Ferguson, the new director of the extension service appointed by the present administration, who an- veteran agent, said:

"The growth and expansion of extension work in the southern re-

gion of the United States over a long period of years was accomplished by a conscientious group of agricultural "missionaries" including colored county and state extension agents, clerical workers, associate field agents, the late J. B. Pierce and now John W. Mitchell, located at Hampton institute as well as a host of rural school teachers, ministers, farm cooperators as well as myself."

FIELD AGENT RETIRES—A record of service with the U.S. Department of Agriculture ended recently when Field Agent T. M. Campbell retired from active duty here at Tuskegee Institute, Feb. 28. Beginning at Tuskegee as the nation's first colored county agent he served over 46 years going up from county through district, state, and regional levels. He says, "I mean to continue working with and for the rural and urban folks in an advisory capacity to help maintain and strengthen their morale."

Started From Shanty—

Veteran Negro Farm Leader Retires . . . Then Goes To Work

By STUART X. STEPHENSON

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., June 20—Tom Campbell had just sprinted up three flights of stairs to keep an appointment.

After getting his second wind, the 70-year-old patriarch of agriculture, his eyes smiling, regulated his six-foot, seven-inch frame comfortably near an open window.

"It is nice to see you and we hope you enjoy your stay at the Institute," said the man who had gone from a sharecropper's shanty in Georgia over a half century ago to many halls of fame and into the hearts of people everywhere who seek the truth.

Dr. Thomas Monroe Campbell had recently been honored by the official staff of the United States Department of Agriculture and a host of other co-workers and friends who knew of his 46 years' toil in the Extension Service. He was resigning.

Tom Campbell is resigning. He is resigned to the relentless task of tearing away the mask of misunderstanding and ignorance and bringing out into the light all that is just and right in the world around us.

Tells Story

And so with an occasional question interjected, Tom Campbell told his story, a gripping narrative pouring out in tones so musical that one felt that there indeed was the Moses leading bewildered men out of the darkness.

"My first great inspiration came after someone read to me the famous 'Cast-Down-Your-Bucket-Where-You-Are' speech delivered by Booker T. Washington at the Cotton States Exposition in Atlanta, Ga., in 1895," said Dr. Campbell in a thoughtful pose, indicating the memory of Tuskegee Institute's illustrious founder still influenced him deeply.

And so a Negro boy, who could neither read nor write, set out on foot from his native Georgia, drawn toward the "shanty" in Alabama where a great man had something to teach him. It was a bold journey, a long one in those days. Tuskegee was 'A far off place.'

Called Foolish

"And along the way they told me I was being foolish, going way over there to Alabama where they teach colored people to be servants for white people." But Tom Campbell plodded along, something inside giving him the drive and the necessary daring to quit his papa and his shack to penetrate the unknown, the place where there was "learning to be had."

The gaunt, Negro boy, shy, unassuming, his long, bony fingers grasping books for the first time, began to put words together. He was helped by a "nice lady at the post-office." Flickers of light began playing in his mind. Light must have been born in his heart.

The years rolled by. Tom Campbell graduated with honors. He was the first of seven members of his family to graduate at Tuskegee. He had "applied himself unto wisdom" and was ready to take his place in a world of free men—but not altogether free.

Tom Campbell went to the grass roots in seeking the truth as he helped to contribute to the growth of greener fields out of wasteland. His was a hard lot, but the stake was too great not to continue the struggle for enlightment among his people, not only in Alabama and the South but into India and Africa—and wherever men needed leadership spearheaded by the truth.

Talks Over 'Voice'

Dr. Campbell's work has carried him into high places for the United States government. His leadership, writings and spoken words have been read and heard all over the world. The Voice of America made him "go over" a two-hour transcription with an extra 30 minutes behind the Iron Curtain. And in this broadcast, Tom Campbell told the full story about the colored people and the white people in his beloved America and he told them "that if the white men and the colored men had the courage to face all the facts" the race problem would cease to exist.

His life's work has been devoted to improving what was once a "terrible" condition for the Negro on the farm and his frank discussions of the dismal situations were not born of discouragement, he told 23 province directors of Extension Service in India some time ago: "The time has arrived when we must face facts, and I know I voice the sentiments of an increasing number of people, colored and white, who are earnestly seeking solutions to these problems. I am convinced that as soon as the Negro is accepted as a full-fledged member of the economic farm family, he will quickly shoulder his part of the agricultural burden, and not until then will the South take its place along with other progressive sections, and poverty, ignorance, delinquency and sickness will pass from among us."

Honors Come

For his labors in the cause of his people, then, Dr. Thomas Monroe Campbell is being honored on all sides and gifts galore are being bestowed upon him.

Among his cherished possessions are letters from distinguished newspaper editors, high government officials and lowly farm people. They are bound in a genuine leather file presented to him by staff officials of the USDA. And to be preserved for posterity is an award jointly presented by the Alabama Extension Service and Tuskegee Inistitute, which reads:

"The Alabama Extension Service and Tuskegee Institute present to Thomas Monroe Campbell this award of merit and appreciation for outstanding service to the rural people of the South, guiding them into better patterns of living, teaching improved methods of agriculture, and aiding in their general welfare. This career of significant leadership has been a credit and an honor to the Extension Service and to Tuskegee Institute."

Signed

W. B. Hill, State Leader
Alabama Extension Service and
F. D. Patterson, immediate past President, Tuskegee Institute.

Tom Campbell is not retiring. He is vigorous and enthusaistic, hopeful. He is returning soon to his native Georgia to "trace his ancestry" and while on that work he will be busy with either researches because he foresees toil in the backwash of the present inflationary economy.

And the man can be measured in this note given to the writer on June 17:

"May I take this means to express my sincere thanks for the many kind letters of congratulation upon my official retirement from Extension Service USDA,

"I feel that if one is in good physical and mental condition, to stop work during these turbulent times is to be classed 'A Slacker.'"

"I mean to continue working with and for the rural and urban folks in an advisory capacity to help them maintain and strengthen their morale, beginning with the community in which I live. Of course this will require some "retooling" but I am sure it can be done."

Sincerely,
Signed
T. M. Campbell Sr.

Annual Confab Held in Sections

Over 1,000 Attend 44th Meet Of Alabama Farmers at A&M

NORMAL, Ala.—The Forty-fourth Annual Farmer's Conference and short courses attracted over 1,000 to the Alabama A. & M. College Friday, Feb. 13.

Three sections were organized to serve those in attendance Friday. Farmers heard success stories of other farmers and participated in group discussions on means of improving farm living through better management.

Farm women were given instruction on better home management and saw or participated in demonstrations by home economics teachers in simple crafts, use of sewing machine attachments, preparation of foods, and management problems.

AT THE GENERAL assembly in the afternoon, Dr. J. R. Otis, president of Alcorn College of Mississippi, called attention to the need to improve management on the farm in order to improve living there.

He also elaborated on suggestions made by President J. F. Drake of A. & M. that farmers hold onto their farm lands. Instances were cited in which farms have been made more productive by introduction of modern methods.

The two-day short course in agriculture, held Wednesday and Thursday, attracted forty-eight farmers, with Farm Shop being the most popular area.

* * *

COUNTY AGENTS present—D. L. Salters (Colbert), C. G. Leslie (Lauderdale), P. F. Farrar (Lawrence), Clarence McDaniel (Limestone), T. W. Bridges (Morgan), W. Q. Scott (Madison), and W. E. Hill, State Leader for Extension Service, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Home Demonstration Agents—Agrippa Davis (Madison), Mrs. Inez Petty (Lawrence, and Dorothy Pulley (Limestone).

Vocational Agriculture Teachers—O. P. Harris (Trinity High School), W. A. Whetstone (Morgan County Training School), Eddie Cannon (Tennessee Valley High), S. N. Nance (Colbert County Training School), P. B. Reynolds (Cherokee High), and Grady C. Moore (Councill Training School).

Vocational Home Economics Teachers—Pauline Brooks (Councill Training School), and Eva Harris (Morgan County Training School).

Teacher Trainer—A. Floyd, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Montgomery Fat Stock Show Proves Negro Youth Progress

By E. P. WALLACE

During the recent Montgomery Fat Stock Show held at Union Stock Yards here, sponsored by the leaders of some of the outstanding civic organizations of the city, three Montgomery County youths won top honor ribbons.

Jesse Richardson, Rt. 6, Clinton Homes, Mathews, Rt. 1, and Washington Carrol, were the 4-H'ers listed by the Negro Farmers as winners. Their forwardness and alertness brought nationwide honors to Montgomery County and its leaders.

J. T. Alexander, county farm agent, and Miss A. M. Boynton, county home agent, have traveled hundreds of miles in interest of the youth in this county. They work from can to can't, never allowing their interests to lag.

It was through the leadership, influence and examples of Dr. Booker T. Washington, T. M. Campbell and others that such a program was initiated and it surely was through that same spirit, J. T. Alexander and Miss Boynton helped the youths in Montgomery County.

There were several counties with their leaders represented at the Fat Stock Show here. Each had played well his or her part. The 4-H'ers under their supervision reflected that training. Too much cannot be said about them.

Boys and girls on the farm have about as much to attract their attention nowaday as the city youth. For this cause, the leaders have to plan and plan, then work so as to interest those youngsters.

To bring these future farmers to livestock shows annually is one of the greatest steps ever taken by the 4-H workers. It does something to them that will stimulate their interest from now on.

W. C. Campbell of Waugh, Ala., a prosperous farmer, is a typical example for the youth. His activeness proves two things: (1) a man can if he will and (2) he is as young as he thinks.

Farming is the backbone of this country. Try breaking an animal's backbone and see what will happen to the animal. Equally true is breaking the nation's backbone (farming).

Florida Farmer Sees Real Success After Starting With Blind Horse

"Planning and patience account for my success," says an $11,000-a-year Florida dairy farmer who started out 28 years ago with only $1.75 and a blind horse he bought on credit.

The farmer is Andrew H. Bowers of Bascom, Fla., whose success story is contained in a 1952 report received by the U. S. Department of Agriculture last week from District Agent J. A. Gresham of the Florida Extension service.

The symbol of Bowers' planning and patience is an expanding woodland section of pines he planted himself on his 265-acre farm.

He set out the first of his trees 13 years ago and watched them grow while he added more from time to time. Today he has 45 acres of pines which he will begin harvesting by selective cutting this year.

$11,200-A-Year

But timber and milk are just two of his cash crops. He and Mrs. Bowers and eight of their 13 children also raise peanuts, hogs, corn and cotton. However, they are gradually shifting out of cotton. It now accounts for less than 10 percent of their $11,200 gross income.

Milk is the main product of their farm. Their 18 grade Guernseys produce nearly 50 gallons of milk a day for the Grade A market in Dothan, Ala. Mrs. Bowers estimates that he grosses about $8,000 a year from milk, $3,000 from peanuts and the rest from cotton, hogs and a few calves.

"But with everything so high," complains Bowers, "my net income keeps getting smaller."

Mr. and Mrs. Bowers started farming as tenants in 1924, after spending their first two years of marriage in Birmingham, Ala., where he worked in the coal mines.

Blind Horse

"All we had when we started were a $1.75 and a blind horse I bought on credit for $25," says the dairyman. But Mrs. Bowers' parents came to the rescue with a delayed wedding gift of two cows, two calves and two female pigs.

A year later, they bought a wagon and gave a landlord $100 worth of corn and hay and $35 in cash as the down-payment on the 55 acres they were renting.

The depression caught them owing $650 of the $1,000 they agreed to pay for the land. Returns from cotton, peanuts and hogs were only enough to pay the interest on the debt, buy a few clothes and the foods they just couldn't raise.

In the nick of time, the Federal Land bank made them a loan to pay off their farm within three years, they were able to repay the Farm Credit agency and begin buying more land. Little by little they increased their holdings until today, they own 265 acres.

With cotton yields declining on land that had been worn out by over-cropping before they bought it, the Bowers turned to pastures and dairying four years ago. County Agent Virgil Elkins has given them considerable advice and encouragement in the development of pastures of Coaster Bermuda and crimson clover.

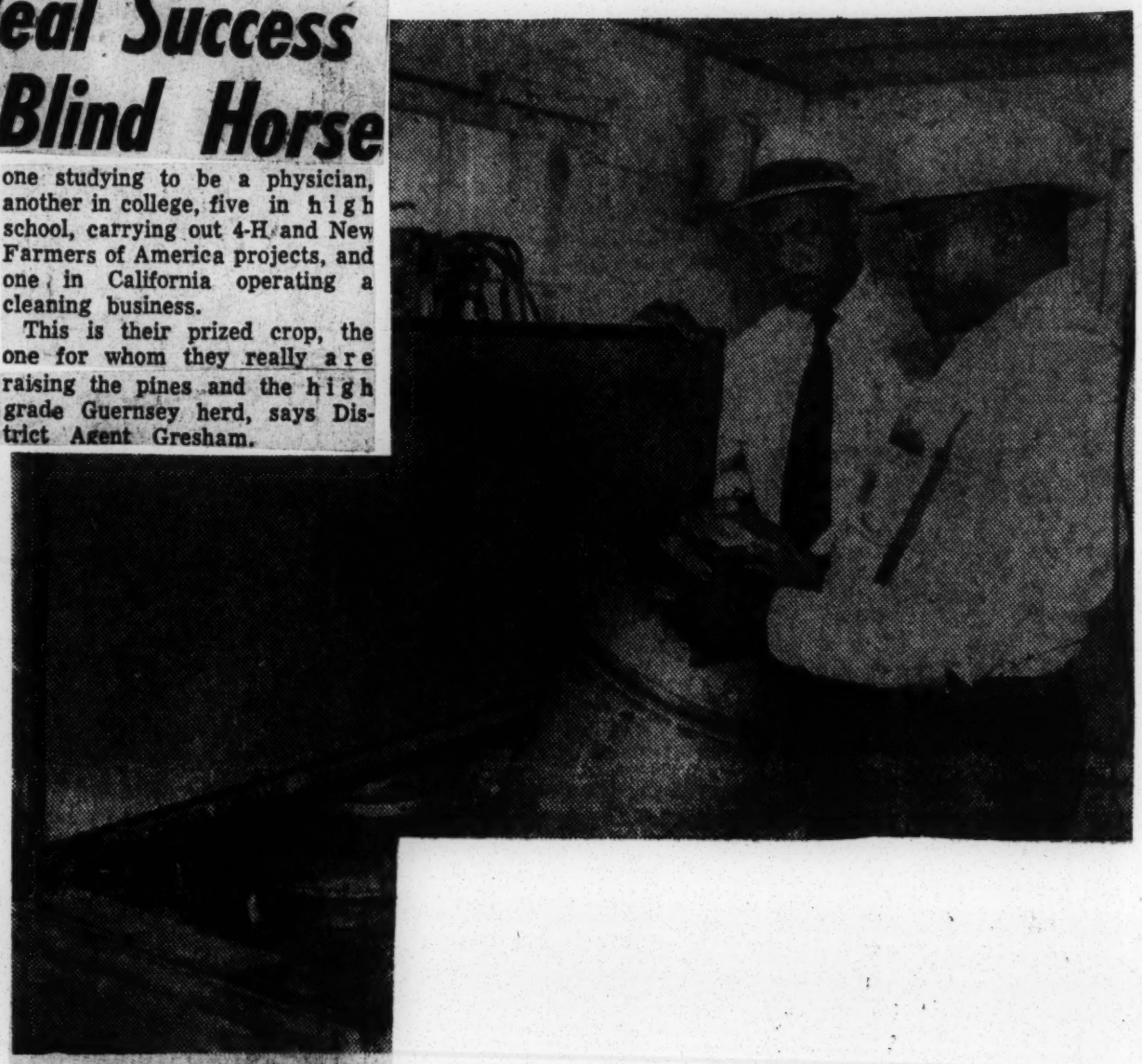
Planning, Patience

The Bowerses started out with six cows, but three of them had been bitten by rabies-infected dogs and died. Undaunted, they bought more cows and continued in dairying. Now they have 18 grade Guernsey cows and 18 calves and heifers.

When Bowers tries to figure out what he did that enabled them to succeed, the answer he comes up with is planning and patience. "I stuck to my bush," he says, "I didn't count on any one crop and I looked ahead. See my trees out there," he asks, pointing ot his 45 acres of woodland, much of which he set out with his own hands.

He and Mrs. Bowers could also point proudly to their 13 children one studying to be a physician, another in college, five in high school, carrying out 4-H and New Farmers of America projects, and one in California operating a cleaning business.

This is their prized crop, the one for whom they really are raising the pines and the high grade Guernsey herd, says District Agent Gresham.



ANDREW H. BOWERS (right) of Bascom, Fla., takes milk out of his cooler to ship it to a Grade-A market in Dothan, Ala. District Extension Agent J. A. Gresham looks on.

SEATED ON HIS TRACTOR, Andrew H. Bowers talks with County Agent Virgil Elkins, Pines in background. which Bowers planted 13 years ago, symbolize his planning and patience. He will begin harvesting timber this year as a cash crop.

MR. AND MRS. BOWERS are shown with two of their 13 children. In background is the dairy herd, made up chiefly of top Guernseys. The boys are Nehemiah and Marion. Nehemiah is a 4-H'er, Marion a New Farmer of America.

Co-op Irrigation System Beats Drought

A gasoline pump and a half mile of pipes are getting water to the crops of a group of colored farmers in north Florida who have established their own co-op irrigation sysem. Elijah McMiddon, left, who took the lead in organizing the co-op, and County Agent Russell Stephens are looking on while the former's son, Ivory, operates the pump.—USDA Photo

A. Gresham is giving Mr. McMillon some pointers on observing root knot, a plant disease which sometimes attacks his tobacco..
—USDA Photo

Shade-Grown Cigar Wrapper

Elijah McMillon, right, a former sharecropper of Chattahoochee, Florida, produces over $5,000-a-year worth of shade-grown tobacco which is used as cigar wrapper. A co-op irrigation system saved the crop this year. Growing the tobacco in the shade makes the leaves thinner and more elastic. These qualities are important for cigar wrapper. District Agent J.

Progress Of Negro Farm Families Described In Extension Report

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3—(Special) — The progress Negro farm families are making partly as a result of the work of 853 colored farm and home agents and supervisors is described in the annual report of Cooperative Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which was released last week.

Among other things, the report points out that Negro farmers and 4-H'ers are making notable progress in increasing their corn yield, expanding their acres of improved pastures, upping their livestock production, and improving their homes.

The 74-page report says farm and home agents worked with 4,500,000 white and colored farm families last year, helping them to apply the results of scientific agricultural research as a means of further increasing their production of food and fiber.

More Colored Farmers Now Live in Modern Homes Although Many Still Poorly Housed

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

WASHINGTON, D. C. — More colored farmers own modern homes and mechanized farm equipment than ever before, although many still live in shabby dwellings and operate their farms with old-fashioned one-mule, one-row implements.

This sums up what I saw during a recent tour of colored farms in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The sight of attractive rural homes almost hidden along little traveled gravel and dirt back roads is a welcomed relief from the thousands of tenant shacks one sees bordering the main highways which sometimes run through the plantations. I am sure these dilapidated dwellings give the average visitor the impression that all Negro farmers and many whites live in ramshackle housing unfit for humans.

But behind the plantations are hundreds of neat and attractive homes on small farms owned and operated by Negro farmers. The farm and home agents of Extension service have put in long hours helping these families to increase their production and raise their level of living.

In Leeds, Ala., for example, County Agent Percy White and Mrs. Rubye J. Robinson, the home agent, are helping to improve a whole community. Already 32 of the 46 homes in this section of Leeds have been touched by the program. Improvements include painting and general renovation, the planting of flowers, seeding of grass, the purchase of furniture, and the installation of modern kitchen equipment. The school, a store, and three churches are involved in the face-lifting project.

In South Carolina, Mrs. Marian B. Paul, state supervisor of home demonstration work; R. C. Smith, the farm agent, and Mrs. Cammie Fludd, the home agent, showed me many improved farm homes. We stopped at three or four, including that of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Benson of Woodruff. They started out as sharecroppers with a borrowed bed and a second-hand stove 31 years ago. Today, they own 124 acres and an attractive home. Mr. Benson is chairman of the community farmers club and one of his boys is state president of New Farmers of America.

Near Columbus, Miss., I had a chance to see how Mrs. Janie V. Hunt has been helping families to improve their homes. Albert Anthony, 1,000-acre cotton farmer, has built himself a modern two-story stucco house. It's serving as a good example for both white and colored farmers who are beginning to make some real improvements in their homes, too.

Theodore R. Jackson of St. Joseph, La., owns just 40 acres. But by developing a balanced farming program, he is making it pay off. Newest crop to try his hand at, with the help of County Agent L. S. Whitlow, is eggs. He has 650 layers and collects as many as 240 dozen eggs a week. With part of his savings, he has built a comfortable home. By doing most of the work himself, he was able to reduce the total cost to about $1,000.

Fifteen miles further from town along a back road is the modern home of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Perkins. It's about as well appointed as any small rural home one will find anywhere. They have a complete bathroom and a new kitchen with a home freezer. They are making 40 acres provide them a good living.

In Arkansas, Prentiss Monk, a soil conservation champion of his state, is a model farmer, growing a variety of crops from cotton and cattle to peaches and caster beans. With the help of the Production and Marketing administration and Soil Conservation service, he has built more than four miles of terraces on his farm to help reduce erosion. Also, he has set out more than a million trees, mostly for his neighbors, within the last three years. This has proved to be an excellent sideline source of income.

The Monks have a comfortable home and so have Alex Jack and his children, who also live in Columbia County, Arkansas. County Agent Wesley R. Dansby and I had dinner with the Jacks—home-cured ham, string beans, sweet-potatoes, lettuce and tomato salad, and ice cream right out of their home freezer.

In Virginia, Miss Rachel Carter, the home agent, took me to visit Mr. and Mrs. Preston Higganbotham who live near Amherst. Two white wagon wheels welcome you to their attractive two-story home. There's a spring in the yard, issuing an endless supply of cold water, but Mrs. Higganbotham says she will never rest until water is piped into the house. They are trying to decide which will come first, a tractor or hot and cold running water. Miss Carter is betting the water will win.

But it has usually been the tractor and other machanized farm equipment such as combines, haybalers, seed drills, and corn pickers which have helped to provide the income for the construction and maintenance of improved housing.

And today tractors and other implements are seen on a good many of the owner-operator farms. They help the farmer to do his work more quickly and more efficiently. Some are able to plow their entire crops of cotton, corn, or peanuts in a single day. And they plow their fields frequently, thus cutting down on arduous chopping and giving the whole family more time for leisure and for tidying up the home.

The homes show it, too. Everywhere I visited from Virginia to Texas I saw excellent examples of well kept modern homes, not enough, of course, but the evidence of a growing trend which is a healthy one. Perhaps a good sign, too, is the increasing number of shabby tenant dwellings one sees empty and growing up in weeds.

Scientists Turn Cottonseed Into Nourishing Food Items

BY SCIENCE SERVICE

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, Sept. 23—The lowly but protein-rich cottonseed may one day make the grade as a main course at the dinner table, if meat's hard to get.

Tasty recipes using cottonseed as a main ingredient are the result of work at the Chemurgic Research Laboratory of Texas A&M College, Dr. W. W. Meinke reports from there. Ground to a meal and then fermented with parched wheat, cottonseed turns into a meat-flavored sauce. Passed through a salt-solution process and mixed with lactic acid, the seeds yield a cheese-like whey toasted like nuts, the kernels become the chief ingredient in cottonseed candy.

Cottonseed is high in protein. With the nation's population increasing and its land reserves decreasing, the use of all plant protein sources becomes highly desirable. Only 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the available protein in plant life is converted in meat consumption. On the other hand, the direct release of plant proteins retains from 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the available protein for the nation's food supply.

Cottonseed oil has long been used in the manufacture of oleomargarine and shortenings, and small amounts of cottonseed flour are used in bread, cookies and cakes. But use of cottonseed as an edible product always was restricted to small amounts because it contains a toxic ingredient called gossypol. Also, the cottonseed meats were affected by a purple discoloration. Now, however, Dr. Meinke's research has developed methods by which to make the cottonseed thoroughly fit for large-scale consumption.

The final tests of the cottonseed products, of course, will be made only when the public has had a sample of them for judgment.

Agriculture Agency Drops No-Discrimination Clause

Says There Is No Need for Bankers To Sign Pledge Before Taking Part In Support Program

By The Associated Press

Washington, Sept. 4.—The Agriculture Department retreated on a no-racial-discrimination issue today in the face of angry Southern protests.

The Department announced there was "no conceivable need" for its previous action requiring private bankers to sign anti-discrimination pledges before taking part in the Government's price-support program.

Secretary Benson had hinted that the Department might reverse itself when he commented recently that he thought the pledges were unnecessary and that the final determination might have to be made by President Eisenhower.

Announced by C.C.C. Chief

Today's about-face was announced by John H. Davis, president of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Department's farm lending agency.

When reporters asked Davis if the controversy had been "referred to Denver" he replied:

"You'll have to talk to Denver."

Denver is President Eisenhower's summer-vacation headquarters.

The pledges required bankers handling price-support loans for the C.C.C. to promise not to discriminate against any bank employees or job applicants because of race, creed, or color.

Davis said lending agencies were being notified as follows:

"We can now advise you that these agreements are of such a character that the inclusion of the (antidiscrimination) clause is unnecessary.

"There appears to be no practical reason for departing from past departmental practices of writing lending-agency agreements without a nondiscrimination provision. Employment of personnel is not a real factor in performing these lending functions and there is no conceivable need for the operation of such a clause in this field.

Clause Now Optional

"These loans are generally handled by the regular staff of lending agencies without the employment of any new personnel. Furthermore, no Government funds are used when the agency makes a loan to the borrower.

"Since the contract forms have already been issued, the clause may be treated as optional on the part of the signatories to an agreement."

The Department's action drew bitter criticism from Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

White said dropping the clause represented a capitulation to Governor James F. Byrnes of South Carolina, one of its leading critics, and added:

"If President Eisenhower permits Secretary Ezra Benson to get away with this humiliating capitulation . . . he might as well disband immediately the Government Contract Compliance Committee which he so recently created.

Was Started In May

"If Byrnes gets away with this arrogant intimidation of a Cabinet officer he will have set a pattern for every holder of a Government contract to defy Vice-President Nixon and the other 14 members of the antidiscrimination committee."

The uproar began when reporters learned about the clause a couple of weeks ago.

The pledge requirement was instituted last May and was based on a 1943 executive order requiring a nondiscrimination policy on the part of persons holding Government contracts.

Byrnes, Maybank Attack

Governor Byrnes, who bolted the Democratic Party to support Eisenhower in last year's presidential campaign, teed off against the new requirement with a wire to the President August 27 saying many banks would refuse to sign any such agreement.

Senator Maybank (D., S. C.) followed up with a demand that Benson rescind the order, and this week a delegation of bankers called at the Agriculture Department to protest against it.

With pressure mounting, Benson told reporters during a speaking trip to Darlington, S. C., Tuesday that he thought the anti-discrimination requirement was unnecessary.

Farm Life 'Rosy' Enough To Lure City Dwellers, U. S. Report Says

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A recent report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture reveals that there are 551,198 Negro farm operators in four border and 10 southern states. This number excludes tenant farmers.

The State of Mississippi is listed as having more colored farm operators than any of the mentioned states with 122,709; North Carolina is second with 69,029; South Carolina is third with 61,255 and Alabama is fourth with 57,205.

Then comes Georgia with 50,352; Arkansas, 40, 610; Louisiana, 40,599; Texas, 34,389; Virginia, 28,527; Tennessee, 24,044; Florida, 7, 473; Oklahoma, 5, 910; Kentucky, 4,882, and Missouri, 3,124.

STORIES GALORE

The report is also filled with inspiring success stories of such a nature that it would inspire a youth living in the country to stay there and also impress youngsters in the cities that the farm has a lot to offer an honest enterprising individual.

For an example, there is D. C. McDaniel, Route 1 in Repton, Ala., who has the reputation of being one of the most efficient farmers in Conecuh county. He has been farming for about 15 years and owns 77 acres and rents 29 acres.

In 1951 he produced 32 bales of cotton on 32 acres and has other crops including potatoes, sugar cane, peas, oats and has 15 acres of improved pasture land.

Members of the McDaniel family belong to Mt. Sinai Baptist church. In the county where their farm is located there are 1,164 Negro farm families.

CORN EXPERT

William McDaniels, 70-year-old farmer in Tyronza, Miss., is the first Negro farmer to produce high yield hybrid corn in the state, according to the Department of Agriculture report. One of his acres yielded 201.92 bushels.

The Elvin Hayes family has been farming continuously for 70 years in Alachua county, Florida on a 140-acre tract. They have 19 cows, 40 hogs grazing in an 80-acre pasture and claim they have been successful in getting good prices for everything they have produced on their place.

SUCCESS STORIES

Others who have made outstanding contributions to farming and are also making an independent living include:

J. W. Mason, 790 Market st., Muskogoo, Okla., farming for 35-years has recently retired after successfully operating a 200-acre owned farm. Mr. Mason was born and reared in Stoneham, Texas and says that the farm program is a big asset to the present day farmer. Mason is a Baptist.

Ten years ago Lee Anderson, wife and one child moved from Paris, Texas, to a 60-acre farm which they purchased on R. 1, Muskogee. Later they leased an additional 105 acres. They have been very successful and have been able to earn a good profit from the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson say, "farm lands in Muskogee County, if given the proper attention, willl yield excellent results." The Anderson farm has a good 32-acre pasture caring for their workstock, cows and hogs." They also say, "the farm programs have been of great value to American farmers." The Anderson family are members of Lane Chapel CME church.

John Dukes, Greenleyville, Williamsburg, County, S. C. one of the original native farmers is owner of a modern farm with 95 acres land (cleared.) He planted 6 2-10 acres to tobacco and harvested 1,200 pounds to the acre. The entire crop sold at $68.00 per hundred pounds. Mr. Dukes says, "it is not a difficult problem to make farming a profitable profession." Williamsburg is one of the largest Negro populated counties with over 4,000 Negro farm families.

Texas enjoys the well deserved reputation of one of the best and largest farm states, and Negro farmers constituting 34,389 farm families have made a heavy contribution to this achievement. Some of the best and wealthiest Negro farmers live and farm in Texas. Ben Scott, Altair, Colorado County, without a family has been farming for 35-years.

He is operating under ownership and lease a total of 424 acres. Two hundred acres of the farm are pasture. The remaining acreage is tractor farmed and he manages to produce large crops cotton, corn, hay and grain each year. Mr. Scott says, "farming furnishes the best opportunity for success. He is an active member of Wesley Chapel Methodist church.

SMITH'S FARM

Near the Arkansas state line is a farm of 669 acres owned and operated by William S. Smith, R.3, Box 436, Texarkana, Texas. A 400-acre pasture caring for 106 head livestock and 200 hogs is one of the main features of this farm. Another asset to the farm is 500 bearing paper-shell pecan trees. This season Mr. Smith featured production of oats, alfalfa and peas. The farm is cultivated with three tractors. Mr. Smith says that he is of the opinion that Negro farmers do not get enough information. Eight members of the Smith family are members of Clear Lake Baptist church. There are 625 Negro farm operators in Bowie County.

AN EX-GI SUCCEEDS

Noah Expose, in the improved community of Marion County, Miss., was discharged from the U.S. Army in 1919 after serving two years in World War I. Returning to Marion County he worked as a sharecroper for two years. In 1921 he borrowed money and bought 40-acres of cut-over land and cleared about 10 acres the first year.

This 40-acres was paid for in 1930. He found during the next few years that supporting a family of twelve children on forty acres was pretty rough and in 1938 he bought another 40-acres and increased his cotton acreage as much as the allotment program would allow. About 1943 he started planting winter cover crops on the land he was to put into cotton. This paid big dividends and he has been planting all the winter cover crops he could get in since. Mr. Expose now has 366 acres with about 158 acres in cultivation.

A recent press release says that Gaston Branch, a farmer of Route 1, Pink Hill, N. C., has retired and is now enjoying the fruits of his labor. "It hasn't been a path of roses all the way," Mr. Branch told his County Agent. He and his wife have reared 13 children. For 15 years they were tenants. They have owned and operated their own place for the past 22 years. When asked the selling price for his farm Branch replied that $75,000 could not buy him out.

He has long been rated a prosperous farmer, using improved methods and modern machinery. He attributes much of his success to diversified farming with special attention to livestock. He keeps a large herd of hogs and some cattle.

Mr. Branch donated the site for the Branch Junior High School and also has given generously to Salem Church.

More Colored Farmers Now Live In New, Modern Homes

Atlanta Journal
Atlanta Ga.

BY SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

More colored farmers own modern homes and mechanized farm equipment than ever before, although many still live in shabby dwellings and operate their farms with old-fashioned one-mule, one-row implements.

Sat. 7-18-53

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P-9

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Report indicates decline of South's sharecroppers

afternoon P.22

WASHINGTON

More sharecroppers in the South probably are being shifted to the status of hired workers, according to the indications of the July farm labor report issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The report shows that the number of family members at work on their farms in June, peak of the cotton chopping season, was 69,000 fewer than a year ago, while the number of hired workers had increased by 58,000.

When the figure for June is compared with that of the average number of family workers during the period 1948-52, a decline of 476,000 is revealed. Also census data indicate a healthy decline in the number of tenant farmers in the South.

Seek Town Work

Between 1940 and 1950, there was a reduction of 546,000 white and colored tenants and croppers in the South. It is pointed out that some of these climbed into ownership, some became farm day laborers, while others left the farm for jobs in town.

The decline in the number of family workers and the increase in the number of hired hands is said to be a natural result of mechanization.

Wage rates for hired workers were up slightly in some States and down somewhat in others. In Florida, for example, the rate with a house was up from $4.40 to $4.80 per day on July 1.

In North Carolina, it was up from $4.05 to $4.20. But in Oklahoma, the rate dropped from $5.80 to $5.70; in Texas, from $5.20 to $5.00; and in Kentucky, from $3.65 to $3.60.

MORE NEGRO FARMERS NOW LIVE IN MODERN HOMES REPORT SAYS

Baltimore

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 20 —More colored farmers own modern homes and mechanized farm equipment than ever before, although many still live in shabby dwellings and operate their farms with old-fashioned one-mule, one-row implements, according to Sherman Briscoe, USDA, Information Specialist.

This sums up what I saw during a recent tour of colored farms in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

The sight of attractive rural homes almost hidden along little traveled gravel and dirt back roads is a welcomed relief from the thousands of tenant shacks one sees bordering the main highways which sometimes run through the plantations. I am sure these dilapidated dwellings give the average visitor the impression that all Negro farmers and many whites live in ramshackle housing unfit for humans.

But behind the plantations are hundreds of neat and attractive homes on small farms owned and operated by Negro farmers. The farm and home agents of Extension Service have put in long hours helping these families to increase their production and raise their level of living.

In Leeds, Ala., for example, County Agent Percy White and Mrs. Rubye J. Robinson, the home agent, are helping to improve a whole community. Already 32 of the 46 homes in this section of Leeds have been touched by the program. Improvements include painting and general renovation, the planting of flowers, seeding of grass, the purchase of furniture, and the installation of modern kitchen equipment. The school, a store, and three churches are involved in the face-lifting project.

Is South Carolina, Mrs. Marian B. Paul, State supervisor of home demonstration work; R. C. Smith, the farm agent; and Mrs. Cammie Fludd, the home agent, showed me many improved farm homes. We stopped at three or four, including that of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Benson of Woodruff. They started out as sharecroppers with a borrowed bed and a second-hand stove 31 years ago. Today, they own 124 acres and an attractive home. Mr. Benson is chairman of the community farmers club and one of his boys is State president of New Farmers of America.

Near Columbus, Miss., I had a chance to see how Mrs. Janie V. Hunt has been helping families to improve their homes. Albert Anthony, 1000-acre cotton farmer, has built himself a modern two-story stucco house. It's serving as a good example for both white and colored farmers who are beginning to make some real improvements in their homes, too.

Theodore R. Jackson of St. Joseph, La., owns just 40 acres. But by developing a balanced farming program, he is making it pay off. Newest crop to try his hand at, with the help of County Agent L. S. Whitlow, is eggs. He has 650 layers and collects as many as 240 dozen eggs, a week. With part of his savings, he has built a comfortable home. By doing most of the work himself, he was able to reduce the total cost to about $1,000.

Fifteen miles further from town along a back road is the modern home of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Perkins. It's about as well appointed as any small rural home one will find anywhere. They have a complete bathroom and a new kitchen with a home freezer. They are making 40 acres provide them a good living.

In Arkansas, Prentiss Monk, a soil conservation champion of his state, is a model farmer, growing a variety of crops from cotton and cattle to peaches and caster beans. With the help of the Production and Marketing Administration, and Soil Conservation Service, he has built more than four miles of terraces on his farm to help reduce erosion. Also, he has set out more

nia, Miss Rachel Carter issuing an endless supply of cold
agent, took me to visit water, but Mrs. Higganbotham
Mrs. Preston Higgan-says she will never rest until water
ho live near Amherst is piped into the house. They are
wagon wheels welcome trying to decide which will come
eir attractive two-storyfirst, a tractor or hot and cold
re's a spring in the yard running water. Miss Carter is bet-

ting the water will win.

36,000 Fewer Persons At Work On Farms This July Than A Year Ago

Although the 14,605,000-bale cotton crop forecast for this year by the U. S. Department of Agriculture is somewhat larger than is needed to meet demands adequately, its smaller size, compared with last year's crop, plus continued expansion of mechanization are likely to reduce by a million bales the amount of cotton white and colored hand-pickers will have opportunity to harvest.

Last year the crop of 16,136,000 bales, of which pickers hand-picked or snapped 13,320, or 82 percent. Machines gathered the other 18 percent. This was the largest percentage a crop machines had ever harvested. They gathered only six percent of the 1949 crop.

When allowance is made for an increase in the amount of cotton machines will harvest this fall, it is estimated that close to a million fewer bales will be handpicked or snapped, compared with 1952. In that pickers receive about $3 per hundred pounds for picking, or $45 per bale, they will lose approximately $45,000,000 in wages this year.

However, despite the reduced work opportunities, cotton production is still out of line with demand. Exports have fallen off considerably. Just before planting time in the spring, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson urged the farmers to try to avoid over-production. He estimated that a crop of 12,500,000 bales would be adequate.

A review of the progress of mechanized harvesting shows that the percentage of cotton gathered by machines increased from six percent in 1949 to 18 percent last year. However, machine harvesting is being done primarily in the irrigated areas of the West. Last year California gathered 59 percent of its 1,818,000-bale crop with machines. Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas also harvested a sizeable part of their crop with mechanical pickers and strippers.

But in the rest of the cotton region, except Louisiana, more than 90 percent of the crop was either hand-picked or snapped last year. Louisiana and Mississippi have made the greatest progress in mechanization of any of the traditional cotton producing States of the South. The former harvested 13 percent of its crop with mechanical pickers in 1952, and the latter, seven percent of its crop.

RICHARD FIELDS of Elkton, Va., casts his ballot in recent wheat marketing referendum. H. A. Scott (right) a member of the committee of farmers chosen to conduct the poll in their district, looks on. Fields is the only Negro farmer of that district who raises more than 15 acres of wheat, and was therefore eligible to vote. As a result of the vote the price of wheat will be supported in 1954 by government at a rate which will give a bushel of wheat 90 per cent of the purchasing power it had in 1909 to 1914.

HOW FARMERS BUILT $70,000 GIN

The story of how a few colored farmers got together and built a $70,000 cooperative cotton gin at Marion, Ark., is reported by A. H. Fuhr in the August issue of "News for Farmer Cooperatives," a publication of the Farm Credit Administration.

Mr. Fuhr, an administrative officer of FCA, says it took two years of explaining and pleading by John Gammon, farmer and president of the County Negro Business League, and other farm leaders to get the project started. And even then some of the farmers wanted to back out because they were afraid of the reaction of the other three ginners in Marion.

But the leaders of the co-op thought that the colored farmers ought to have their own gin. Finally by the spring of 1948, they had succeeded in raising $30,000 which they plunked down on a $70,000 modern gin. In September of the same year the first bale of cotton rolled on the platform, and the co-op was in business.

Not a single one of the other ginners has ever said a word against the co-op, Mr. Gammon reports. And the Negro gin has made money every year, enough to pay dividends to the 45 preferred stockholders, and allow a rebate of $3.50 a bale on all cotton ginned by both common and preferred stockholders. There are 75 of the former.

2,000 BALES A YEAR

On an average, the gin has been processing about 2,000 bales of cotton a year. At present, it takes 1,500 bales to meet all obligations. The rate for ginning is about $12 per bale.

Thirty-six thousand fewer persons were at work on farms in the South during the survey week, July 19-25, than during the same period a year ago, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

For the Nation as a whole, employment was down 200,000 from a year ago. Total number at work was 10,772,000. Of these 4,649,000 were employed in the South either on their own farms or as hired workers.

With most of the cultivation of cotton in the South completed, farmers in that region were either dusting their crop with insecticides or just about ready to begin picking. In parts of Texas, picking was already underway.

FARMS and FARMERS

Report Shows Decrease In Southern Farmers

Since 1950, the number of tractors on farms has increased by half a million while the population of farm people and workstock has declined sharply, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in a report last week.

Taking a long look, the report says that unparalleled changes have occurred in farming in the United States during the past 40 years. In that time the number of tractors has increased from 1,000 to 4,170,000, while the farm population has declined from 32,077,000 to 23,276,000, and the number of horses and mules has dropped from 24,211,000 to only 6,293,000.

Thousands of Negro farmers are reported to be shifting from mule-power to tractors. Many are purchasing tractors and combines cooperatively. How the tractors and other farm machinery are reducing the number of colored farmers is indicated in 1950 census data which shows that the number of colored farmers has decreased from 689,215 in 1945 to 582,000 in 1950.

Over the 40-year period, the number of combines has increased from 1,000 to 887,000, and the number of farms with milking machines, from 12,000 to 686,000.

Since 1950, the number of tractors on farms has increased by more than 500,000, while the number of people has decreased by more than a million, and the workstock population by 1,500,000.

Progress Described

The progress Negro farm families are making partly as a result of the work of 853 colored farm and home agents and supervisors is described in the annual report of Cooperative Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which was released last week.

Among other things, the report points out that Negro farmers and 4-H'ers are making notable progress in increasing their corn yield, expanding their acres of improved pastures, upping their livestock production, and improving their homes.

The 74-page report says farm and home agents worked with 4,500,000 white and colored farm families last year, helping them to apply the results of scientific agricultural research as a means of further increasing their production of food and fiber.

New Extension Director

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced last week the appointment of C. M. Ferguson, director of the Ohio Agricultural Extension Service, to succeed Director M. L. Wilson of the Federal Extension Service.

However, Mr. Wilson will continue to serve the department as a counselor on extension work here and abroad. Under his 12-year leadership the number of Negro extension agents and supervisors increased from 508 to 853, and the first opportunities were provided for Negro 4-H'ers to take part in a regional encampment.

The new director has been active in American agriculture for more than 30 years. He is chairman of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy of the American Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities.

Ferguson was born in 1899 on a farm in Parkhill, Ontario, Canada, and was graduated in 1921 from the Ontario Agricultural college at Guelph where he specialized in poultry and other animal science. He has been in extension work since 1922, all except seven years of which have been in Ohio where he became director in 1948.

Negro Farmer Gets Award

Robert Simpson of McCurtain County, Okla., received an award recently from a hybrid seed firm for obtaining an average yield of 114 bushels of corn per acre on a five-acre plot, reports County agent A. B. Murry. The average corn yield in Oklahoma last year was only 13 bushels per acre, and the 10-year average, 1941 to 1951 is only 18.4 bushels per acre.

Simpson obtained his high yield by plowing under hairy vetch on the five acres prior to seeding a hybrid variety. The proper amount of fertilizer was applied at the time of planting and the corn was side-dressed with 150 pounds of ammonium nitrate.

Wheel-Chair Poultry Farmer Is Making Good In Egg Production

MACON, Ga. — Although Henry Chaney of Macon, Ga., is confined to a wheel chair, he is making good in egg production, says P. H. Stone, supervisor of Georgia Negro Extension work, in a report received last week by the U. S. department of agriculture.

From a flock of 350 layers, Chaney is gathering nearly 20 dozen eggs a day which are marketed in town, Stone reports. And from his wheel chair, the poultryman handles the whole operation —feeding the layers, cleaning the watering troughs and the laying house, collecting the eggs, and cleaning, grading, and packing them into cases and cartons to be picked up daily by a marketing truck.

EGGS COVER EXPENSES

Net returns from his eggs cover the living expenses of himself and his five-year-old son, Henry, Jr. This leaves his 10 per cent Army service disability check in the clear to be put away for Junior's education.

Chaney lost the use of his legs five years ago, shortly after he returned from overseas service in the Army and took a job with a sawmill. One day a tree fell on him and broke his back.

AID FROM FRIENDS

When the veteran came home from the hospital with the knowledge that he would never walk again, he became restless and wanted to find some way to become a useful citizen again. The Georgia Extension service, the Veterans Rehabilitation service, the American legion, and the American Red Cross all joined hands to help the crippled man.

He told the representatives of these agencies that he wanted a job that would keep him outside in the fresh air and sunshine. So they decided to help him become a poultry farmer.

CLASSES IN HOME

Chaney's first task was to learn something about poultry husbandry through the on-the-farm training program. Classes were conducted in town in the evenings by County Agent J. M. Hill, but the veteran had no way of getting to town regularly. So the instructor agreed to give him lessons at home.

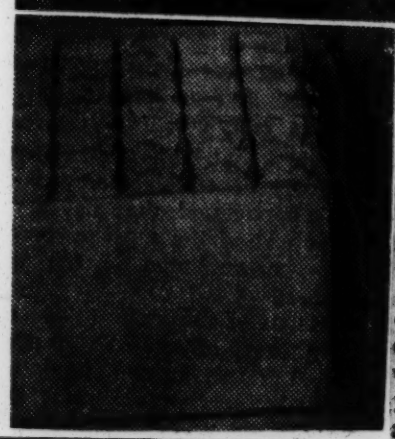
Soon Chaney was ready to begin handling a flock. County Agent Hill decided to let him try his hand with 100 birds, but in addition to obtaining the chickens, there was the matter of a brooder, a laying house, and a water supply.

The local legion post provided money for all the materials and part of the cost of construction. The rest of the labor was furnished by Chaney, Hill and a few friends.

BUILT FROM CHAIR

The veteran sat in his wheel chair and nailed boards on the laying house as high as he could reach. Also, he dug the hole for the water tank, and the trenches for the pipes which would carry water to the flock.

Chaney plans to raise up 200 baby chicks for layers this spring to replace the poor layers he is culling and to build up his flock to 450 head. He is not only making a new life for himself as a poultry farmer, but also he is rapidly becoming an outstanding egg producer, says Stone, who is encouraging more farmers to go into poultry and other crops so they may reduce their cotton acreage this year.



WHEEL CHAIR POULTRY FARMER—Henry Chaney, seated in his wheel chair in Macon, Ga., gets some pointers on grading eggs from County Agent J. M. Hill (right). Looking on is P. H. Stone, supervisor of Negro agricultural extension work in Georgia. From 350 layers, Chaney is collecting nearly 20 dozen eggs a day. He lost the use of his legs while working for a sawmill five years ago when a tree fell on him and broke his back.

Negro Farmers Meet To Talk Conservation

Southwide Jamboree To Honor Champions Of Soil-Saving Plan

SPARTA, Ga. (AP) — Negro farm conservation champions from 10 southern states will be honored here next Thursday and one will be designated the No. 1 Negro soil conservation farmer of the South for 1953.

The winner will receive a prize of $150 and the other nine will get $100 each. The presentations will be made by Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life.

The awards will be the highlight of the Southwide Soil Conservation Jamboree which has been a regional event since 1947.

W. F. Hall of Sparta, supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District, will preside and an address will be made by J. W. [illegible] gent of Spartanburg, S. C., assistant southeastern regional director of the U. S. Soil Conservation service.

The state winners, with comment from some of them on what the soil conservation program means to them:

Claiborne Carter, Alma, Ala.: "I have been able to put running water and lights in our home."

Eugene King, North Carolina: "I started farming with one old mule and a wooden beam plow. Now I have two tractors and all equipment."

Arthur Ricks, Mt. Vernon, Ga.

E. C. Fore, Marion, S. C.; "it took years of hard work and much help from others."

John Gammon, Jr., Marion, Ark.

Tylear Sanders, Jr., Quincy, Fla.

Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.: "I now get 35 bushels of corn where I used to make only 10 to 20 bushels an acre.

Gilbert Bryant, Mt. Juliet, Tenn: "One field, which seven years ago wouldn't produce enough corn to pay for the labor, this spring yielded more than three tons of button clover hay to the acre."

Oran W. Waddleton, Winnsboro, Texas: "At first my corn yielded about 15 bushels to the acre and now it is around 50. My 10-year-old son planted an acre of corn for his 4-H Club project and it made 101½ bushels."

Harvey Turner, Stuart, Va.

Soil Conservation Jamboree Planned For August 20 At Log Cabin Center

SPARTA, Ga. — Ten Negro farmers who have struggled from near scratch or below to become the Negro conservation farming champions of their states will be honored at the Southwide Soil Conservation Jamboree here next Thursday August 20.

One of the ten will be declared the No. 1 Negro Soil Conservation Farmer of the South for 1953. He will receive $150. The nine others will be awarded $100. All prizes will be presented by Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro County Life, of Mayfield.

The Jamboree program will begin at the community center in Log Cabin Community near here at 10 a. m. Each of the 10 state winners will report, and an address will be made by J. W. Sargent, assistant Southeastern regional director for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Spartanburg, S. C.

W. F. Hall, a supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District and a member of the Georgia State Soil Conservation Committeee, of Sparta will preside. The Jamboree began as a local event in 1945. Under the guidance of Mr. Hall, Professor Hubert, and others, it was Georgia-wide in 1946, and extended to the Southern states the following year.

Barbecue will be served following the speaking program. The event is arranged so that it is open to the public, white and colored.

Throughout the statements made by the 10 State winners there runs a theme of "love of the land," and a note of confidence that soil conservation farming is the pathway to a more abundant life on the land.

"The reason I like conservation is it pays," said Claiborne Carter, Alma, Ala., the Alabama champion. "It makes a better living for me and my family than the old way of farming did. I have been able to put running water and lights in our houses . . to send our children to school."

Eugene King, the North Carolina winner, bought his farm in the days of the depression, then went to the coal mines of West Virginia to work "to obtain cash to start farming." In his own words:

"I started farming with one old mule and a wooden beam plow. Now I have two tractors and all equipment."

Like a number of the other state champions, Arthur Ricks of Mt. Vernon, Ga., bought his farm with help from the Farmers Home Administration. "It's paid for now," said Ricks with pride.

All the men had help from Soil Conservation Service technicians in planning and carrying out whole-farm soil and water conservation programs. The technicians are working through farmer-directed Soil Conservation Districts. State Associations of Districts chose the 10 men for Southwide recognition at the Jamboree.

County agents, vocation agriculture teachers, Production Credit Associations, home demonstration agents, and others were credited with assistance.

Some, like E. C. Fore, Marion, S. C., the South Carolina champion, said:

"The winning of this prize did not happen in one year. It took years of hard work and much help from others to put my farm in shape to save it and pay off my debts."

A roll call of the other winners brought comments like these:

John Gammon, Jr., Marion, Ark.: "In one field where I lost at least five bales of cotton each year, a drainage ditch was constructed. The average production is now more than a bale to the acre.

Tyleal Sanders, Jr., Quincy, Fla.: "I began farming with two mules, one about 15 years old and one blind. At the present time we have a tractor and its equipment. Our 18-year-old daughter Ellen has had the grand champion 4-H Club steer in the annual fat stock show two years, and one year the reserve champion. She also won a $300 scholarship last year for being the most active 4-H Club girl in Florida."

Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.: "I now get 35 bushels of corn where I used to make only 10 to 20 bushels an acre."

Gilbert Bryant, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.: "One field, which seven years ago wouldn't produce enough corn to pay for the labor, this spring yielded more than three tons of button clover hay to the acre."

Oran W. Waddleton, Winnsboro, Texas: "When I purchased this farm in 1939, it was run-down with erosion so bad I was unable to make enough on it to care for my wife and eleven children. At first my corn yielded about 15 bushels per acre, and now it is around 50 bushels per acre. My ten-year-old son planted an acre of corn for his 4-H Club project, and it made 101 1-2 bushels. I am now in a better condition to care for my family, because I have cared for my land."

Harvey Turner, Staut, Va.: "Conservation has become a way of life for me and my family."

GEORGIA FARMER TO BE HONORED — Arthur Ricks and his wife Bertha of Mt. Vernon, Ga., are shown in yard of their home. The farmstead was purchased in 1941 and has been paid for several years. Ricks is winner of the Georgia State Jamboree Soil Conservation Contest. (SCS Photo By John W. Busch)

Agriculture Income In Ga. Lower Than In 1951

Georgia's farmers took a $77,792,000 cut in net income last year as compared with 1951, the largest such reduction in the Southeast, the Atlanta regional office of the U. S. Department of Commerce reports.

According to Merrill C. Lofton, regional director, net income to the State's agriculturists last year was placed at $379,810,000, a sharp reduction from the $457,602,000 realized in the previous year.

"Net income" should not be confused with cash receipts from farm marketings reported bi-monthly by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, or the value of all farm products sold listed by the Bureau of Census, Mr. Lofton said. The "net income", which is estimated each year by the Commerce Department in its annual report on income payments of individuals consists of the income of farm proprietors, including value of change in inventories of crops and live-stock, farm wages, and net rents to landlords living on farms, it was pointed out.

In the seven southeastern States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and the Carolinas, the net agricultural income last year was off $227,165,000 as compared with 1951, the Commerce Department said, with all States except Mississippi sharing in the reduction. In the latter State, the farmers experienced a rise of $18,945,000 in such income, or from $389,455,000 in 1951 to $428,498,000 in 1952.

Otherwise, the reduction in 1952 from 1951 was $16,258,000 in Alabama, or from $325,158,000 in 1951 to $308,900,000 in 1952, Florida, $37,894,000, from $344,494,000 to $356,600, North Carolina, $66,756,000, from $741,738,000 to $674,982,000 South Carolina, $52,743,000, from $310,253,000 to $257,510,000, and Tennessee, $14,070,000, from $366,900,000 to $352,224,000.

BROTHERS OPERATE SAWMILL AS TEAM — Six brothers, working as a team, having developed a $60,000-a-year sawmill enterprise near Macon, Ga., to provide off-farm employment for themselves. They are telling State Extension Agent P. H. Stone, left, how they did it. Left to right the brothers are: Isaac, Robert, Leon, Moses, Nelson, and John stooping. Their mill can turn out 7,000 feet of lumber a day. In the foreground is the saw used in the woods to fell trees.—(USDA Photo).

$60,000-A-Year Sawmill Developed As Sideline

MACON, Ga.—Six brothers of Macon, Ga., who started operating a small sawmill seven years ago to piece out their income from farming, are now grossing $60,000-a-year from their off-farm enterprise, says Negor State Agent P. H. Stone of the Georgia Extension Service in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The brothers are Robert, John, Nelson, Isaac, Moses, and Leon Dumas who were reared on a tenant farm near Macon, and got their idea about operating a sawmill from their father who used to cut and haul wood during the slack farming season.

LAND POOR AND HILLY

When their father died 16 years ago, the six boys, their sister, and mother continued farming as tenants on 60 acres with a pair of mortgaged mules. But the land was poor and hilly and hay was about the only crop they could raise. Soon they bought a used truck and began cutting and hauling timber to supplement their earnings.

Following World War II the brothers bought a new truck and expanded their logging enterprise. By the end of 1946 they had decided to buy a small portable sawmill in order to increase their income. Pooling their savings of $1,200 and borrowing $800 more from a local bank, they were able to make the purchase.

"Teamwork is the thing," says Robert, the oldest brother and manager of the enterprise. "It took teamwork to buy that mill, and it has taken teamwork to keep it going."

TRAILED TRUCKS

Each of the six brothers has a specific assignment. In addition to serving as manager, Robert is also the salesman. Leon is bookkeeper and head sawyer at the mill; Moses operates the saw in the woods, fell ing the trees; John uses tractor and cable to drag the logs to the loading point; Nelson operates a skidder which loads the logs on huge trailer-trucks; and Isaac drives one of the trucks, hauling logs to the mill and lumber to town where most of it is delivered to a sash and door factory.

$100 PER THOUSAND

The brothers buy timber standing, spend three days a week in the woods felling trees and hauling them to the mill, and two days a week sawing the logs into lumber. On an average they produce about 14,000 boadr feet of lumber a week for which they collect from $60 to $100 per thousand board feet.

Each of the six brothers— manager and bookkeeper and truck driver alike —draws the same pay, lives in the same kind of attractive modren home and gets what groceries he needs from their partnership store. Water, electricity, liquid gas for heating and cooking and gasoline for their jointly owned car are furnished. Each brother has charge of the car one Sunday in six.

MODERN HOMES

The brothers are operating the 60-acre rented farm now mostly to grow food for themselves. In the area where the sawmill is situated, they own 21 acres on which they have built seven modern homes — one for each brother and his family and one for their mother and sister The homes are identical except for color.

State Agent Stone points out that more and more farmers may have to develop off-farm sidelines in order to provide full-time employment for the family. "The Dumas brothers," he says "are an example of what can be done."

3-Day Ham, Egg Show Begins in Newton County

Constitution State News Service

COVINGTON, Feb. 16—The Newton County Ham and Egg Show, sponsored by the Covington Kiwanis Club, will be held Feb. 17-19 at the Washington Street Gymnasium.

The show will feature an exhibit of cured hams and fresh yard eggs produced, processed and selected at home by the Negro citizens of the county.

Demonstrations on producing and conserving meat, eggs and improving agriculture and community life in the county will be presented by local and state agriculture leaders.

Appearing on the program will be Adron Harden, county agent; Mrs. Hazel Malone, home demonstration agent; E. L. Ficquett, county superintendent of schools; T. M. Bates, county commissioner; Charles E. Bell, livestock specialist; P. H. Stone, extension agent; K. C. Childers, special agent; O. S. O'Neal, originator of the Ham and Egg Show; R. O. Arnold, chairman, Board of Regents, and other local and state agricultural and business leaders.

Judging will be done by T. M. Campbell, Extension Field Agent, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Friday's program will include addresses by Dean Wm. Tate of the University of Georgia and Miss Susan Myrick, Associate Editor of the Macon Telegraph and News. There will be an auction sale of prize hams and eggs and a general sale of others.

Farmers and 4-H clubbers from Peach, Houston and Macon Counties are expected to exhibit over 1000 cured hams and 200 dozens of selected eggs that will compete for prizes.

Farmers from all over the state are expected to attend this annual affair. Also Agricultural leaders and educators from over the nation are expected to attend.

Church is assisted in this annual affair by Miss Juanita Furlow, Home Demonstration Agent of Houston County and J. M. Moody, County Agent of Houston County and members of the Fort Valley State College and local farmers.

38th Annual Ham, Egg Show Slated

FORT VALLEY, Ga. — (ENS) — The 38th Annual Fort Valley Ham and Egg Show under the direction of R. T. Church, will be held Thursday and Friday, March 26-27, in the main auditorium of the Fort Valley State College.

The judging will begin promptly at 10:00 a. m., Thursday. At 1:30 p. m, a Ham Show Evaluation Clinic will be held with C. E. Bell, R. O. Williams, Extension Livestock Specialists and K. C. Childers, Special Extension Agent as Consultant. J. G. Woodruff, chairman of the Food Processing Division at the Georgia Experiment Station, will deliver the main address at this meeting.

At 7:30 p. m. 4-H club members from over the county will put on a Talent Show. They will be address-

Photo by Gene Brittor

TOP NEGRO CONSERVATIONIST CONGRATULATED

Winner Carter, W. F. Hall, Arthur Ricks

Leading Negro Soil Conservers Honored

By GENE BRITTON
Constitution Staff Writer

SPARTA, Aug. 20—Ten of the South's most successful Negro farmers were honored for their parts in the war against eroding soil Thursday at the seventh annual Southern Negro Soil Conservation Jamboree at the Log Cabin Center north of here.

Claiborne Carter, winner from Alabama, received a check for $150 for being grand champion winner of the 1953 soil conservation and better farming contest. Checks for $100 were presented to winners from each of the other nine states taking part in the competition. Arthur Ricks, Mt. Vernon, member of the Ohoopee River Soil Conservation District, was winner from Georgia.

Other winners were John Gammon Jr. of Marion, Ark.; Tylear Sanders Jr. of Quincy, Fla.; Eugene King of Ruffin, N. C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.; E. C. Fore of Marion, S. C.; Gilbert Bryant of Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; Oran W. Waddleton of Winnsboro, Texas, and Harvey Turner, Stuart, Va.

DESCRIBE IMPROVEMENT

Each of the men described improved farming conditions on his land since their undertaking prescribed soil conservation practices. One-mule farms with top soil steadily washing away became thriving farms with marked increase in farm income, they said.

J. W. Sargent, assistant regional director of the Southeast Region Soil Conservation Service, in the main address of the day, said remarkable strides have been made on American farms in almost three decades of research in the problems of soil conservation.

CONSERVATION DEFINED

Sargent defined soil conservation as using the land within its ability and treating that land according to its needs.

Pointing out the importance of saving America's natural resources, Sargent declared, "every nation that has lost its land has lost its freedom." At the present rate of population increase, America, in 25 years, will have to feed five people for every four now being fed, Sargent said. "We can feed those people through soil conservation and through no other means."

Pick '53 Soil Conservation Champion

Alabama Farmer Winner

LOG CABIN, Ga. — A former sharecropper of Alabama, who has tripled his corn and cotton yields on land that used to be run down and eroded, was named the 1953 soil conservation champion of the South last week at the Log Cabin (Ga.) Jamboree.

The new champion is Claiborne Carter of Alma, Ala., who sharecropped and tenant farmed all his life up to 1938 when the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture made him a loan to buy a 160-acre farm of his own.

In winning the top honor at the jamboree, Mr. Carter outstripped nine other state soil conservation champions. Closest runners-up were E. C. Fore of Marion, S. C., who took second place, and Oran Waddleton of Winnsboro, Tex., who was awarded third place honors.

Other state winners are John Gammon Jr., Marion, Ark.; Tylear Sanders Jr., Quincy, Fla.; Arthur Ricks, Mount Vernon, Ga.; Eugene King, Ruffin, N.C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.; Gilbert Bryant, Mount Juliet, Tenn., and Harvey L. Turner, Stuart, Va.

Awards totaling $1,050 were made available by Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro County Life, and were presented by various leaders at the event. Mr. Carter received $150, and the others were awarded $100 each.

The jamboree address was delivered by J. W. Sargent, assistant director of the Southeastern Region of Soil Conservation Service. He praised the farmers for setting examples in sound soil and water conservation and for the part they and the association are playing in helping to make the nation aware of the importance of conserving the soil resources of America.

Mr. Sargent was introduced by W. F. Hall, a supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District, who has helped to guide the jamboree since its founding by Dr. Hubert eight years ago.

The soil conservation champion was chosen state winner to represent Alabama by his district, the Mobile River Soil Conservation District. He merited the recognition by converting a gullied, run-down and eroded farm into one of the outstanding production units in his state.

When Mr. Carter bought the place fifteen years ago, it took nearly six acres of the poor land to produce a single bale of cotton, and the corn yield was down as low as eight bushels per acre. Today, he gets half a bale of cotton to the acre, and his corn yield is up to twenty-five bushels per acre.

"I used to lose five or six head of cattle every year," Mr. Carter recalls. "The animals were just too thin to make it through the winter." Now his cattle and swine are fat, and he hasn't lost an animal in years. Last year, he sold thirteen head of beef cattle, seventeen hogs and $100 worth of eggs.

Top Conservation Farmers—The top soil conservation farmers of the South are shown on the Log Cabin, Ga., farm with W. F. Hall, left, a supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District, Claiborne Carter, Southwide soil conservation champion, is showing Mr. Hall his $150 check. Others in the back row are John Gammon Jr., Marion, Ark.; Tylear Sanders Jr., Quincy, Fla.; Eugene King, Ruffin, N. C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla., and Benjamin Anthony, Arkansas' 1952 winner. In front row are E. C. Fore, Marion, S. C.; Gilbert Bryant, Mount Juliet, Tenn.; Oran Waddleton, Winnsboro, Tex., and Harvey L. Turner, Stuart, Va. Each of these state winners received a check for $100.—USDA Photo by Webb.

1b 1953

Kentucky

Ky. Farmer's Ingenuity Meets Off-Farm Needs

Negro American p. 20

WASHINGTON

The ingenuity small farmers may have to use in the future to provide off-farm employment to piece out their farm income i s being demonstrated by F. H. Potter of Bowling Green, Ky.

Mr. Potter has developed slaughter facilities and a custom farm machinery service in addition to operating a 60-acre farm, operated in partnership by Mr. Potter and his two older sons, Herbert and Norman.

Mr. and Mrs. Potter started farming as tobacco sharecroppers 46 years ago with only $19, most of which was used to buy a bed, a chair, and a second-hand stove. By 1913, they had saved up enough to make the down-payment on 22 acres.

Little by little they increased their land holdings to 132 acres. Today, they rent an additional 518 acres for the expanded operations of the father and two sons.

The Potters grew into the slaughter business. "You see, the first six of our 13 children were girls," says Mr. Potter, "and I had to find something for them to do besides their field work; so I went into slaughtering."

Today, he can handle 700 hog a year and 100 beeves. Mr. Potter estimates that his slaughter service brings him and his sons a gross of about $3,000 a year. They are paid to be the only Kentucky colored farmers operating an abattoir.

Farm Family Of The Year Shows Way To Succeed

BATON ROUGE, La. (ANP)—A lesson in successful farming on only 40 acres has been demonstrated for thousands of small farmers by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Foster of Bunkie, La., who were chosen last week as "Louisiana's Honor Farm Family of the Year," says Agricultural Director John W. Fisher of Southern University.

Other farm families honored during Southern's third annual State Farmers Honor Day are Mr. and Mrs. Marion Elmore of Washington, La., and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Foster of Tallulah, La. All three winning families received their start through the Farmers Home Administration which made them a loan to buy farms of their own.

The Fosters achieved the outstanding feat of making a good living for their family of 13 on just 40 acres by supplementing their cotton crop with a year-round truck patch from which they sell vegetables every day in the week except Sunday.

Others Should Follow

This farmer's demonstration, says Fisher, blueprints a cropping program which thousands of small farmers might do well to follow. Census figures show that while the average size of farms operated by white farmers in the South is about 160 acres, the average for colored farmers is less than 50 acres.

"When the Farmers Home made me a loan in 1940," Foster said, "we didn't have a thing but two piece of a beds and $9 my wife and I had saved up after years of sharecropping."

Get Kitchen Utensils

Today, they own a modern home, a tractor, a truck and a car. Two of their 11 children are college graduates and are teaching, two are in college, and five are in high school.

For their achievement, Dr. F. G. Clark, president of Southern presented them a beautiful trophy and a certificate of honor. R. R. Holloway of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce presented them a set of aluminum kitchen utensils.

The second place family received a radio, and the third placers, a table lamp. The event was sponsored by the divisions of agriculture and home economics in co-operation with the Extension Service and the Vocational Agriculture development.

LARGEST NEGRO POULTRY farmers in Maryland, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Baker of Princess Anne, Md., are shown getting some advice on turkey production from county agent L. H. Martin, left. The Bakers' are raising 9,000 Beltsville white turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas market. They often raise as many as 60,000 broilers a year, in addition.

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Of Farms And Farmers

Willie Baker, Maryland Farmer, Raises Brood Of 8,000 Gobblers

PRINCESS ANNE, Md. — Willie Baker of Princess Anne, Md., largest Negro poultry farmer in the state, is raising 9,000 Beltsville white turkeys for market this fall, reports Maryland District Extension Agent Martin G. Bailey.

Baker has been in poultry production for nearly four years. Starting out with 500 broilers in 1950, he gradually increased the size of his flock and his poultry houses. Last year, he raised 60,000 broilers.

Fearful of a sharp decline in broiler prices this fall, Baker thought he would try his hand at raising turkeys. He expects to go back into broiler production in January. Mrs. Baker, a school teacher, helps with the birds during the summers and after school.

SIZE UP REGISTERED BULL.—Roscoe Johnson, left, of Port Gibson, Miss., and County Agent J. C. Dunbar size up a registered Hereford bull. In addition to the bull, Mr. Johnson has a herd of 28 head of cattle, most of them grade Herefords. It took 12 years of tenant-farming and day laboring for him to get started. He owns 84 acres purchased through Farmers Home Administration.—USDA Photo.

Farmer Uses Modern Methods to Progress

STATE COLLEGE, , Miss. — (ANP) — A bale and a quarter per acre of cotton this year instead of the half bale he averaged until five years ago has marked another step in the modern system of balanced farming being developed by Howard Bailey, 42-year-old farm owner and operator of 130 acres in the northern hills section of Holmes county.

He is also developing beef cattle and hog programs on a sound basis. As president of the Sunny Mount Community club of 31 families, he urges others to follow the methods he has learned from the Agricultural Extension service with the particular assistance of Negro County Agent A. P. Johnson of Lexington.

Using a recommended rate of mixed fertilizer was the first practice Bailey adopted in beginning his cotton improvement effort in 1948. Only fertilizer he had previously used was a small amount of nitrogen, about 75 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre. In 1949 he added the practice of poisoning and in 1950 he began the full program from selecting the proper land to orderly marketing of the crop.

He is the only Negro farmer in Holmes county co-operating with the Tennessee Valley authority and Mississippi State college in educational demonstrations of ammonium nitrate use.

The government measurement of his 14.67 acres in cotton this year compared closely with his own calculation of 15 acres. He expects to pick 18 or more bales from his crop.

"My good land that is best drained is where I plant my cotton," he said. Good seed is his next step after land selection. This year he planted breeder seed of the D. and P. L. 15 fox variety.

"I generally get breederseed and run it three years, then buy new seed every fourth year," Bailey explained. The ginner co-operates in helping him keep his seed pure.

He planted this year on April 22 with all his fertilizer placed under the crop. This was 400 pounds of 6-8-8 and 100 pounds of ammonium nitrate per acre.

After an early poisoning to control thrips, he dusted four other times about seven days apart when the boll weevils were at their worst. He missed a needed poisoning when the first squares appeared because of not having his own equipment, and this hurt the bottom crop a little, he said. Purchase of mule-drawn dusting equipment is in his plans for 1954.

Bailey hoed this year's crop three times and cultivated it about 10 times. With a family of nine, he has plenty of labor. I don't pick cotton when it's damp, and I make my hands pick it clean, he said.

Believing that good marketing is just as important as good production, he sells cotton according to the grade and staple shown on the green card received after free Smith-Doxey classing. He used the government loan before this year and expected to put his cotton under it this time unless offered a price well above the loan level.

In his beef cattle program, Bailey has 27 head of commercial Herrford cows and calves. His Herrford bull, subject to registration, promises to greatly improve the quality of his herd.

For summer grazing, he has 65 acres of Bermuda, dallis and lespedeza. Ten acres of this received application of lime, superphosphate and potash two years ago.

He expected to plant temporary grazing for late fall and winter use, and has saved over 500 bales of hay. Pulpwood cut by his boys while expending and improving.

Hogs and a good pecan orchard are among his other enterprises. "I always have time for an extension worker, for there's where the success of my farming lies," he declared. His Negro county agent commented, "When we started talking it, he started doing it."

Bailey has had the management responsibility of a farm for 16 years. He bought his 130 acres from his father.

Negro And White Farmers Share Equally In Grenada Harvest Festival Awards

Sen. John C. Stennis Featured Speaker

GRENADA, Miss., Nov. 30—(Special)—Negro and white farmers shared equally in a number of $100 and $50 awards given November 21 at the second annual Grenada Harvest Festival. Both groups received the same total amount of money, except for the grand champion award of $300 in cotton production, won by David Maxey, white farmer of Holcomb, who actually picked and ginned over a bale and a half per acre on his five-acre contest plot.

This better farming program is sponsored by the Grenada Chamber of Commerce.

United States Senator John C. Stennis, featured speaker of the day, priased the well-planned program conducted with the cooperation and understanding of both races.

"The program you have set up here is a glowing example of what can be done with the cooperation of both the white and Negro citizens of the county—a program that is destined to better the welfare of all your citizens," Senator Stennis declared. "I sincerely hope that other communities will follow your excellent example."

Dr. Claude Walston, member of the Grenada Negro Chamber of Commerce, spoke on behalf of the Negroes of the county and commended Senator Stennis for his efforts in helping solve race problems in the South.

The South does not have any problems that Southerners cannot solve, Dr. Walston said. The majority of the wealthy and educated Negro citizens of the United States live in the South or were educated in Southern schools before they moved, he said.

Cash awards to Negro farmers follow:

First place cotton, each of four districts in county, $100 each—Foster Lott, Albert Wright, Turnage Williams, Jim Golliday.

First place corn, two districts, $50 each—William Edmonds, Donie Wells.

Second place cotton, $50 each—Roosevelt Moss, Todie Adams, Harvey McFarland, Donie Willis.

Ex-$1.50-A Day Hand Has Own $9,000 Farm

PORT GIBSON, Miss — It took 12 years of tenant-farming and day laboring at $1.50 a day for Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Johnson of Port Gibson, Miss., to get started, but now they own a $9,000 diversified farm and gross nearly $5,000 a year.

The story of their hard-won success was told to the U. S. Department of Agriculture recently by State Leader W. E. Ammons of the Mississippi Extension service.

The Johnsons, who were given a lift by the Farmers Home administration, grow a variety of cash crops and most of their own food on their 84-acre farm. Their cash crops include 10 acres of cotton, 10 of corn, 10 of soybeans. and 36 acres of pasture and hay crops for their 28 head of beef cattle and 65 hogs.

Besides, they sell fryers, turkeys, eggs, and milk. Also they have two acres of millet, two of sugarcane, and one-acre home garden out of which they sell vegetables year-round.

"I thought we would never get started," says Mr. Johnson, who dropped out of Alcorn college's high school department to take a job at a $1.50 a day keeping up the plows and hoes and other equipment on a cotton plantation.

He was still working by the day when he married in 1929, and it took several years more before he was able to save up enough to buy a mule and become a tenant on the place.

RAINY DAY PLAN

But the Johnsons believed in growing their own food in order to put something aside for a rainy day. "Of course, we wanted a farm of our own," says Mr. Johnson, "but we knew we would probably never save up enough to make the down payment."

Then one day they got the idea of applying to the Farmers Home for a loan to buy a farm. On the record of their efforts to save by living at home, their application was approved, and a few months later they moved into a new home on 84 acres that cost them $4,084.

"We've been offered $9,000 for our place," says Mrs. Johnson, "but we wouldn't think of selling it."

CUT DEBTS

Although they had 40 years in which to repay their loan, they have already cut their indebtedness down to less than $1000. Two of their five daughters have graduated from college, and the other three are headed in the same direction.

"We owe a lot to Farmers Home, our supervisor, and to our county agent, J. C. Dunbar," says Johnson, "they encouraged us to apply more fertilizer, grow cover crops and carry out other sound soil building practices, as well as poison our cotton against boll weevils."

When they bought their farm,, the cotton yield was less than a half a bale to the acre,, and they thought they were doing well when they got 20 bushels of corn off an acre. But now. their cotton yield has more than doubled the three years ago, they produced 137 bushels of corn on one acre — highest yield in the county. Their average yield now is 50 bushes per acre.

Seldom does a week pass that the Johnsons are not taking something to town to sell. Sometimes it's buttermid and butter and vegetables, sometimes it's a few chickens and eggs, and frequently it's a calf or a hog.

"We plan to expand our diversified cropping program and reduce our cotton acreage," Johnson states, "you just can't beat a year-round income."

ROSCOE JOHNSON (left) of Port Gibson, Miss., and County Agent J. C. Dunbar size up a registered Hereford bull. In addition to the bull, Johnson has a herd of 28 head of cattle, most of them grade Herefords. It took 12 years of tenant-farming and day laboring for Johnson to get started. He now owns 84 acres purchased through Farmers Home Administration. USDA.

From $1.50 Per Day To $5,000.00 Per Year Is Success Story Of Mississippi Negro Farm Family

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"We plan to expand our diversified cropping program and reduce our cotton acreage," Mr. Johnson states, "you just can't beat a year-round income."

A VARIETY OF CASH CROPS.—Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Johnson raise a variety of cash crops, including turkeys and chickens in addition to their cotton, hogs, and cattle. These sidelines have enabled them to send their children to college.—USDA Photo.

From $1.50 a Day to $5,000 a Year Is Long Climb of This Farm Family

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Drops Out Of School

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THIS TRACTOR and combine are owned cooperatively by 12 Negro farmers in Claiborne County, Miss. Jesse Johnson, seated on tractor, is a leader of the co-op. He also operates the machinery and keeps it in repair. Talking with Johnsn are J. C. Dunbar, county agent; W. E. Ammons, state extension leader; and M. M. Hubert, retired state leader.

Of FARMS and FARMERS

Southern Farms Get Larger, Jobs Scarcer

Since 1920 the average size farm in the Southeast has increased from 78 to 124 acres and in the Mississippi Delta region, from 71 to 9 acres, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The larger farms are said to be mainly a result of a reduction in the number of sharecropper units which have been taken over by landowners who are using machinery instead of cropper labor.

Census data show that the number of tenants and sharecroppers in the South decreased from 1,165,279 in 1945 to 903,000 in 1950. Of this 262,000 decline, only 37,000 white and colored tenants climbed into ownership, while 121,00 whites and 104,000 colored tenants and croppers either were reduced to day laborers, or left the farm altogether.

Reports show a sharp increase in the number of farms of 500 acres or more. Although, these farms make up less than three percent of the total number of farms in the southern region, they occupy one third of the acres in farm land, compared with only about 15 percent in 1920.

FARM EMPLOYMENT DOWN

Over 100,000 fewer people were working on farms in January this year then during the same period in 1952, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A long look at farm employment shows a continuous decline. For example, the average number of hired and family workers engaged on farms during the period 1910-14 was 12,052.000 while the average number in 1952 was only 9,758,000.

Family workers, perhaps tenants and croppers who are no longer needed, have borne the brunt of the decline. Within the 40 year period, the number of family workers has decreased from 9,160,000 to 7,595,000, while the number of hired workers has shown a drop of only 600,000. During the 1910-14 period, there were 2,892,000 hired workers on farms. Last year, there were 2,163,00.

Accompanying the decline in workers has been an increase in the number of tractors and other machines on farms. In 1910, there were only 1,000 tractors on farms. In 1952 there were over 4,000,000.

A. S. TOTTEN, head, of department of Poultry at A. & T. college gives pointers in egg grading to a few of the farmers attending the Poultry Clinic held last week at the college. Looking on from left to right are: Mrs. Lorena McCauley, Alamance County; W. L. King, Rockingham County and T. G. Galloway of Madison. All have successful poultry projects aimed at increasing the farm income. The clinic, a one day affair, attracted some 40 poultry producers from nearby rural areas.

MISSISSIPPI NEGRO FARMERS NAMED IN 1952 SUCCESS STORIES

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. May 12—The booklet released here last week by the farm production office of the U. S. Department of Agriculture named two Mississippians among the 1952 Negro Farmer's success stories.

Noah Expose, in the improve community of Marion County was discharged from the U. S. Army in 1919 after serving two years in World War I. Returning to Marion County he worked as a sharecropper for two years. In 1921 he borrowed money and bought 40-acres of cut-over land and cleared about 10-acres the first year. This 40-acres was paid for in 1930. He found during the next few years that supporting a family of twelve children on forty acres was pretty rough and in 1938 he bought another 40-acres and increased his cotton acreage as much as the allotment program would allow. About 1943 he started planting winter cover crops on the land he was to put into cotton. This paid big dividends and he has been planting all the winter cover crops he could get in since. Mr. Expose now has 366 acres with about 158 acres in cultivation.

He has continued to carry out soil and water conservation practices on a large scale each year under the ACP Program and has established 8-acres white clover, lespedesa and dallis grass pasture, has two stock ponds constructed and his entire farm has a good system of terraces. These practices along with a good winter cover crop program have all been carried out with assistance offered through the ACP. This year Mr. Expose has 65 acres cotton, 55 acres corn, 8 acres truck crop, 12 acres hay and 10 acres he plans to put in fescue and white clover this fall. He has 19 good grade beef cattle and is getting a registered bull. Mr. Expose gives much credit to assistance offered through ACP and advice given him by the agricultural workers in the county.

Walter Houston, owner of 160-acres in hill area, Tallahatchie County has 70 acres in cultivation and 90 acres pasture. His farm produces around 10 bales cotton each year, 1,000 bushels corn, 500 bales hay, 50 bushels peas and other food crops. At present he is owner of 25 head cattle, 45 hogs, 4 mules, 5 horses and one tractor with all attachments. He sells about 10 head cattle and 30 hogs each year. Through the PMA program he has on his farm 3 stockponds, fences and uses lime, phosphate and basic slag on his pastures and cover crops. In addition, Mr. Houston has a good home with electric lights and electric pump for his water supply.

YOUNG LEADERS AT ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION of the National Homemakers of America last week at Prairie View college, Prairie View, Texas, are shown above. They are (from left) Zola Jean Ernest, national president from Grambling, La.; Barbara Brown, national vice-president of Section C from Wellington, Del.; Martha Ann Henry, national vice-president of Section A and state president of the Texas association from Prairie View; Henrietta Daniels, national secretary, Moultree, Ga. and Josephine Sherrill, national treasurer, Statesville, N. C.

NHA In National Meeting At Prairie View College

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas — A belief that better homes will make a better America is the guiding principle of the New Homemakers of America who held their seventh national convention at Prairie View A and M college, May 26-29.

Nearly 500 teen-age girls, representing a national membership of almost 50,000, attented the annual leadership training meeting.

The New Homemakers, an organization of homemaking students in secondary schools for Negroes, is sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education, under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, headed by the recently appointed Cabinet member, Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby.

Theme of this year's convention was "Contributing to Happy Family Life through the New Homemakers of America."

Miss Edna Amidon, chief of the Home Economics Education Branch, U. S. Office of Education, chose "Families Around the World" as the subject for the main address on the opening day of the convention.

The noted married team of sociologist, Drs. Bernice and Harry Moore of the University of Texas were feature speakers at the meeting. Mrs. Moore is also a Consultant in Home and Family Life for the Texas Education Agency.

Dr. John Keltner, leadership training expert from the University of Oklahoma, conducted leadership training sessions throughout the four-day meeting.

At first general session, the young delegates were greeted by Dr. J. W. Edgar, Commissioner of Education in Texas, Dr. E. B. Evans, President of Prairie View college, Zola Jean Ernest, of Grambling, La. the 15 year-old national president of NHA, and O. C. Hunter, jr. of Texas, national president of the New Farmers of America.

The busy convention schedule included radio and TV appearances of the NHA national officers. On the agenda were development of a national program of work for 1953-54, election of new officers and adoption of national projects.

Leadership methods, and ways in which NHA can work to make better citizens by improving family life, were emphasized in discussion groups throughout the four days.

Recreational highlights of the convention were a tour of Houston and San Jacinto Battlefield, climaxed by a chuck wagon supper.

The convention closed with the installation of new officers.

Delegates Chosen For NHA Meeting At 'Skegee Inst.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — 37 delegates have been chosen to attend the Seventh National Convention of the New Homemakers of America May 26-29 at Prairie View A and M College, Prairie View, Texas, Mrs. Bettye Steele Turner, State NHA Advisor announced today.

The delegation left by chartered bus on May 24. At the meeting the girls and their advisers will represent Alabama's 620 NHA chapters.

The National NHA membership this year reached a high of 48,842 girls.

Theme of this year's conference is "Contributing to Happy Family Life Through NHA." About 300 girls are expected from sixteen southern states.

At the convention, the girls will receive leadership training, elect their national officers and set up a national program of work for the coming year.

The New Homemakers of America are Negro students of home economics in secondary schools in states having separate school programs. Their motto is "Better Homes For A Better Nation." They believe that the mothers, but alert and well informed citizens.

Geraldine McCants of the Rosenwald High School NHA chapter has been selected as a delegate to the seventh national convention of the New Homemakers of America at Prairie View A and M College, Prairie View, Texas, May 26-29, Mrs. Juanita Whiting, local home economics teacher, announced today.

Geraldine is a candidate for the National president of the New Homemakers of America. She will be introduced on Tuesday during the sectional meeting, by a fellow delegate from Alabama.

NHA Ends Seventh National Meet With Impressive Installation Ritual

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas — The New Homemakers of America closed their seventh national convention here last week with impressive installation ceremonies for new officers and a vote to hold their 1954 meeting at Virginia State college.

Geraldine McCants of Monroeville, Ala., was named national president of the association of young high school girls studying to be homemakers of tomorrow. Miss McCants replaces retiring national president Zola Jean Ernest of Grambling, La.

Other national officers elected to serve the 50,000 membership organization included Allen Butler of West Virginia, secretary; and Mary Nina Moore, of Mexico, Mo., treasurer.

Also Archie Dean Stevenson, Ardmore, Okla., vice-president, Section A; Gloria Marshall of Florida, vice-president, Section B; and Geraldine Haplett of Virginia, vice-president, Section C.

NOTABLE SPEAKERS

The full week's activities at Prairie View A. and M. college included many notable speakers and discussion and work group sessions supervised by leading homemaking teachers in the nation and by several guest consultants.

Theme for the conference was, "Contributing to Happy Family Life Through NHA."

An entertainment highlight of the meeting was a motor trip throughout the South's largest city—Houston, Texas, and the San Jacinto Battle Grounds and the historic Texas Monument.

The 18-Greyhound bus motorcade, which was escorted through the city at the courtesy of the Houston Police department, brought the group to Phyllis Wheatley high school for the climaxing chuck wagon barbecue dinner, before returning to Prairie View.

GIVE TALENT SHOW

A talent show with presentations from various states was another entertainment highlight.

Texas Association representatives from Austin's Anderson high school practically stole the show with pretty dance groups which were repeatedly called back encore after encore.

The colorful ceremonies of the final day included reports of the retiring officers, reports of national projects and other closing activities.

Honorary NHA memberships were awarded to President E. B. Evans of Prairie View A. and M. college, Miss Ruth M. Laws, state adviser, Delaware, and Joan Whiting, past NHA national president, Maryland.

The local committee for arrangements, headed by Mrs. Lois W. L. D. Glass and Miss Lenoliah Gandy, leadership staff; T. R.

Solomon, registration, and J. M. Coruthers, transportation.

Also F. G. Fry, stage properties; Mrs. Delia M. Ellis and Mrs. Constance Thompson, Houston tour and chuck wagon barbecue; Mrs. Elizabeth Rogg, Miss Margaret Scholl and C. A. Wood, publicity.

1 b 1953

NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA

NFA Honors Booker T. During Week

GREENSBORO, N.C. — From April 5 to 11 is New Farmers of America Week, honoring Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute, and regarded by many as the father of vocational education.

According to W. T. Johnson, assistant supervisor of Vocational Agriculture Education, with headquarters at A. and T. College and in charge of NFA activities in the State, there are more than 5,500 active members of NFA in North Carolina.

Join 40,000 Others

These youths who are studying better agriculture practices, better rural and urban living in high school vocational agriculture classes, will join with more than 40,000 boys in the other Southern States to pay special tribute to the things for which Washington stood.

In addition to the various activities and public programs in the different communities, several radio programs are planned.

Officers of the State Association are:

President, Frank Bullock, Manson; first vice president, Charlie McLean, Lillington; second vice-president, Calvin Devereaux, Whitakers; secretary, Walter Hill, Lawndale; treasurer, Waddie Gabriel, Catawba; reporter, Victor Dunbar, Columbia; advisor, S. B. Simmons, A. and T. College; executive secretary, W. T. Johnson, A. and T. College, and administravtive advisor, A. L. Teachey, Raleigh.

NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA hold state convention on the campus of A and T college in Greensboro, N. C. In photo, Dr. W. L. Kennedy (left) professor of dairy husbandry at A and T, presents medals to winners in the livestock judging contest, Winners, left to right, are Archie Wesson, Lewiston, N. C.; Ammie Cooper, Goldsboro, N. C., and Gilbert Russell, Concord. The boys will represent North Carolina at the national meeting in Atlanta, Ga., later this year.

MORE THAN 40 New Farmers of America attending the annual convention were awarded the Modern Farmers degree. Medal is given those who have excelled in some agricultural project during the year. Among ther were, (left to right) Joe Wallington, Stoneville; Neil A. McClean, Battleboro, and Roscoe Lowe, Boiling Springs, named Star Modern Farmer.

DR. CHARLES CARROLL (center) state superintendent of public instruction and principal speaker at one of the sessions, chats with Frank Bullock (left) of Henderson, state president; and W. T. Johnson, assistant supervisor of Vocational Agriculture who is in charge of NFA work in the state. More than 500 young farmers from throughout North Carolina attended four-day meet.

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WASHINGTON—Attending the annual meeting of the board of trustees of the New Farmers of America in Washington last week, seated left to right: Albert Ballard, Opelousas, La.; John Johnson, Hopkinsville, Ky.; Curtis Cooper, Savannah, Ga., and Henry Slaughter, Doerun, Ga. Standing: J. R. Thomas, Petersburg, Va.; Charles Brunswick, Bolivar, W. Va.; Robert Smith, Terry, Miss.; Frank Bullock, Manson, N.C., and S. B. Simmons, Greensboro, N.C.

TALENT COMPETITION CLOSES NEW FARMERS CONVENTION

NEARLY $1,500 IN PRIZES AWARDED TALENTS, JUDGES

The awarding of nearly $1,500 in prizes climaxed the week long National Convention of the New Farmers of America meeting here in Atlanta in the Municipal Auditorium.

Winners in the National Talent program received a total of about $900 with Paul Knowles being hailed as the first place soloist of the national body. Knowles is a state winner from Texas.

Second place winner in the soloist section was John F. Davis of West Virginia and John Smith of North Carolina was the recipient of the third place award.

In their instrumental division, Johnny Johnson of Atlanta copped first place honors with Russell Stanley and James Seeback as runners-up.

JUDGES

Acting as judges for the Talent Contest were Mrs. Essie Groves of the department of music at the B. T. Washington High School; Mrs. Jessie [illegible] Wartman, supervisor of public school music; and Mr. Charles L. Gideons, supervisor of schools. Prof. James Bohannon, principal of the Carver Vocational School, acted as chairman.

Over $500 was awarded to teams in the National Judging Contest. State teams consisted of three state representatives. Kentucky was first place winner of $210. Georgia ran a close second with each of its contestants receiving $50 each. West Virginia's team was presented [illegible] for $100. Texas was awarded the $70 fourth place presentation and Louisiana was $20 fifth place winner.

MAJOR ADDRESS

During the week the National Convention heard America's top citizens in major addresses. Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president of Gammon Theological Seminary, spoke to the group on "The Two I's" in a stirring address delivered in the Wednesday morning session.

Other speakers heard during the week were Mayor Pro-Tem R. E. Fields, Mayor William Hartsfield, who was also recipient of the NFA's Honorary Superior Farmers Degree, Charles L. Gideons, who also was awarded the degree, Dr Sherman D. Scruggs of Lincoln University at Jefferson City, Mo., and Chester H. Lang, of the General Electric Company.

Francis Thompson of Maryland was installed yesterday during the closing session as the new president of the National Body by the now honorary president, John Johnson of Hopkinsville, Ky.

In resolutions yesterday, delegates were loud in their praise of Atlanta and its famous hospitality. Convention headquarters were lodged in the Butler Street YMCA.

Named among the 10 highest ranking individuals in the National Livestock Judging Contest were Bobby Taylor, Ky.; Veatis Ellison, Texas; David Hand, N. C.; Paul [illegible], Texas; Joe [illegible], La.; Ira Long, Ga.; Charley H. Millen, W. Va.; Sylvester Jenkins, Ala.; Willie Evans, La.; and Willie White, Ga.

TOP N. F. A. AWARD WINNERS — Pictured are a few of the many New Farm youths who received over $1,500 in awards for top farm projects. They are (front row, left to right) Theodore Wilson, farm improvement winner; J. D. Williams, farm mechanics winner; Donald Signs, soil and water management; George Green, Jr., dairy farming.

Pictured on the second row, left to right, are Adelbert Tripplett, winner in dairy farming, Willie Sapp, soil and water management, and Neil A. McLean, farm electrification winner.

Mayor Welcomes Negro Farm Youths, in 19th Session

The 19th annual convention of the New Farmers of America, Negro branch of Future Farmers of America, opened last night at the city auditorium. Forty-nine delegates from 16 Southern states are attending the convention which will last through Friday.

Highlights of the opening meeting were a welcoming address by Mayor Hartsfield and the NFA national quartet contest, in which quartets from the organization's three districts competed. The winning foursome, representing the Gladewater, Texas, district, included Darl Didman, Earlie Walker, Jr., Burnis Simmon and Lesly Taylor.

In addition to the 49 delegates attending the convention, an 80-voice national NFA chorus is performing at all sessions. Georgia members of the chorus include Herman Jones, James Garfield, Clarence Jones and Walter Cooley, Lumpkin; Robert Clements, Oliver Barron, Joe Green, Cleve Standifer and James Jordan, Monticello; Ambrose Smith, Ralph Ogletree and Clifford Smyth, Forsyth; James Payne, Charlie Wilcox, James Lay and Joseph Wilcox, Ocilla, and Ruffus Cliffin, Charles Butler and James Higgins, Woodville.

National officers at the convention are: John Johnson, Hopkinsville, Ky., president; Albert Ballard, Opelousas, La.; Frank Bullock, Manson, N.C., and Hurley Fontenot, Raywood, Texas, vice presidents; Henry Slaughter, Doerun, Ga., secretary; Charles Brunswick, Bolevar, W. Va., treasurer; Robert Smith, Terry, Miss., reporter, and D. C. Jones, Langston, Okla., adviser.

This morning at 9 o'clock the delegates will hear an address by Dr. Harry V. Richardson, president of Gammon Theological Seminary.

New Farmers Hold 17th Convention

INSTITUTE, W. a.—The 17th annual convention of the West Virginia Association, New Farmers of America convened at West Virginia State College May 6-9. Forty-five delegates and 102 members were present to witness and participate in the annual contests and leadership training program of the organization.

Preceding the convention, state officers along with the NFA Administrative Executive Secretary Guy E. Cain, and State Adviser, J. L. White, came to the college to select winners of the national foundation award contests which are as follows:

Farm mechanics, Robert Raylor farm and home improvement, Charles Brunswick farm and home electrification, Charles Jackson, dairy farmer, Richard Greene, and national soil and water management, Thomas Johnson, all Page Jackson Chapter, Charles Town, W. Va.

$25 Awards

An award of $25 was given to the winners of the above contest by the FFA Foundation.

Dr. William J. L. Wallace, president, West Virginia State college, delivered the keynote address Wednesday evening.

Thursday morning, members of the Judging Teams from all chapters judged livestock and farm crops.

This contest was won by the Institute Chapter of Institute, which will represent West Virginia at the national convention in Atlanta, Ga. in September; Bluestone Chapter of Bramwell, second; and DuBois of Mt. Hope third.

Star Farmer Award

Vo-Ag Record Book: First Year, Charles Story, Stratton Chapter, Beckley, 1st place; Second year, Otis Third year, Cornelius Clark, Stratton, 1st place; Fourth year, Charles Brunswick, Page Jackson, 1st place.

Public Spaking ($25 award): Don Straughter, DuBois Chapter, 1st place; Maurice Sewell, Page Jackson, 2nd place; Charlie Miller, Institute Chapter, 3rd.

Talent: John F. Davis, Bluestone, 1st place; Nathan Page, Page Jackson, 2nd; Mitchell Lee, Institute, 3rd.

Parliamentary Procedure Contest: Page Jackson Chapter, 1st; Du Bois Chapter, 2nd; Institute, 3rd.

Secretary's Book: William Claytor, Bluestone, 1st; Leonard Jefferson, DuBois, 2nd; ohn Rinhart, Stratton, 3rd.

Treasurer's Book: Gerald Eanes, Bluestone, 1st; Walter Adams, Stratton, 2nd; Don Straughter, Du Bois, 3rd.

Scrap Book Contest: Richard Randall, DuBois, 1st; Donald Lipscombe, Institute, 2nd; Joe Dickerson, Blueston, 3rd.

Quiz Contest: ($25 award): Richard Greene, Page Jackson, 1st; Albert Hairston, Bluestone, 2nd; John Fluellen, Institute, 3rd.

Quartet Contest: Bluestone Chapter, 1st; Institute, 2nd; Stratton, 3rd. William Cooper, '39, Greensboro, N.C.; Allie C. Felder, '43, Hampton; William M. Hubbard, '22, Norfolk; Washington DuBois Ross, '41, Detroit, and J. St. Clare Walker, '48 and '50, Middlesex County, Va.

The anniversary classes and their leaders are:

1903, Mrs. Virginia Monteiro; 1883, Thomas Walker, Goucester; 1888; 1893, Mrs. Neolus Pierce, Hampton; 1898, Mrs. Helena Phillips, Hampton; 1908, Dr.Henry Weeden, Lynchburg; 1913, Hugh Brown, Goldsboro, N.C.;

To Hear Moron

1918, Mrs. Viola Milburn, Hampton; 1923, Leroy Smith, East Orange, N.J.; 1928, Dr. Eva Mitchell, Hampton, 1933, Miss Esthlle Thomas, Hampton; 1938, Dorsey E. Lane, Washington, D.C.; 1943, Walter Walker, Hampton, and 1948, Dr. Thieran Cromartie, Tuskegee, Ala.

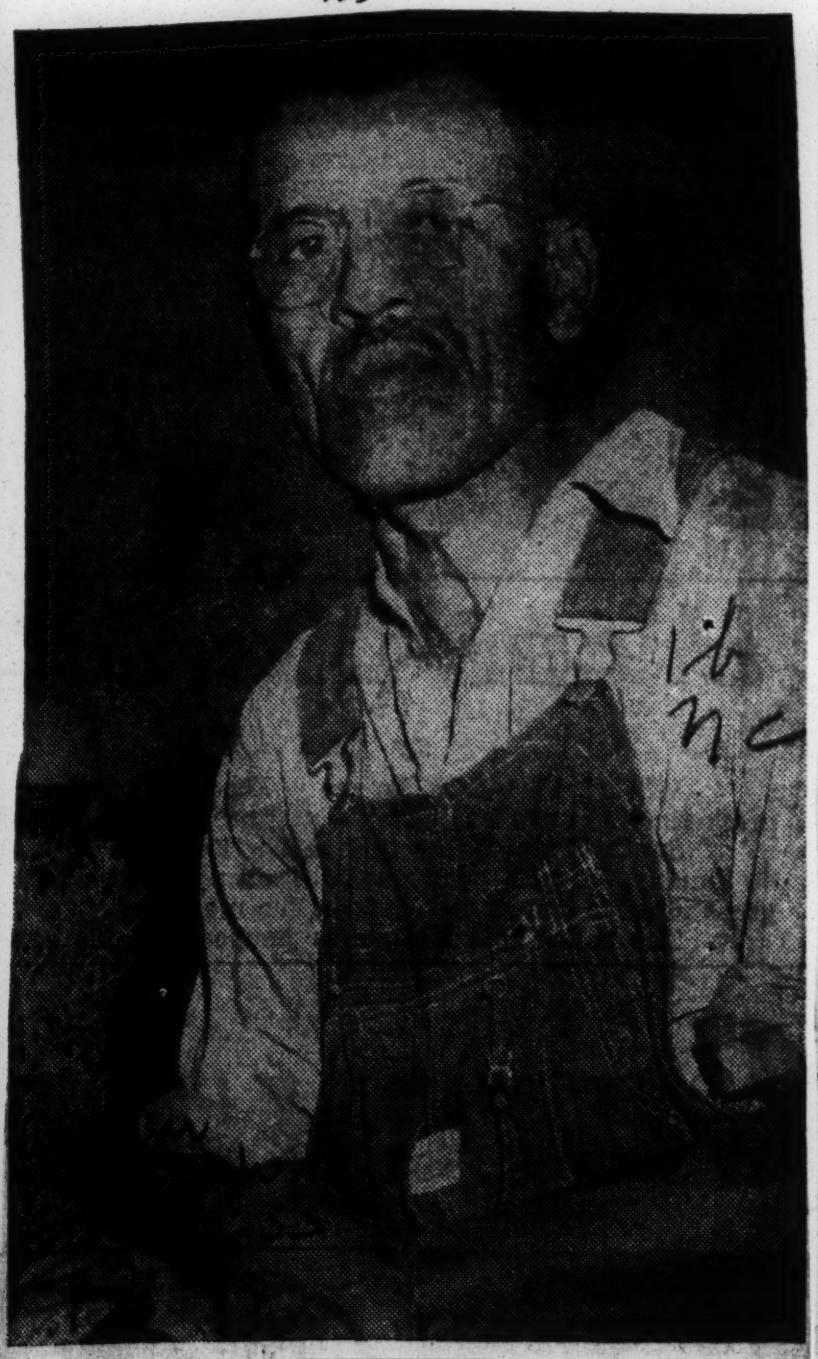
President Alonzo G. Moron of Hampton will address the visiting alumni in a special session in Clarke Hall on May 30.

Other contest Winners

Winners of the contests are as follows:

Star Modern Farmer Award was won by Richard Greene, Page Jackson. Modern Farmer awards were won by Joe L. Johnson, DuBois; and Thomas Johnson, Page Jackson.

During the convention, Honorary Modern Farmer Degrees were conferred upon C. E. Prewitt, assistant professor of agriculture, Dr. R. L. Bailey, assistant professor of agriculture, and Madison Broadnax. director of agriculture, all of West Virginia State College; G. V. King, Charles Town, W. Va., and T. W. Chiles, principal, DuBois high school, Mt. Hope, W. Va.



EUGENE KING
. . . soil conservation program

Gets $100 Cash Award

Farmer of Year Gives Credit to Wife, Children

REIDSVILLE, N. C.—Because his wife fully worked with him, Eugene King of Rockingham County was named North Carolina's "Farmer of the Year."

This marked the second time in three years that a Rockingham County farmer received this national recognition.

Located in the Poteat Community near Oregon Hill, King's farm is an outstanding example of good profitable soil conservation farming and of what careful planning and hard work can accomplish.

T. D. Williamson, farm agent, points out that King's entire 214 acres are sowed into some growing cover crop. Presently, eleven head of beef cattle, eight dairy cows and thirteen baby calves roam the farm and add to the income.

LISTED AMONG the projects King carried out to win the Farmer of the Year award are: terracing of entire farm, wild life border, twenty-two acres of permanent pasture, eight acres of meadow strips, nine and three-tenths acres of tobacco, one acre of cucumbers, ten acres of wheat, four and one-half acres of oats and barley and three acres of rye and an acre seeded to pines.

Mechanization had a lot to do with King's receiving the coveted award. He has a cub tractor for row cropping and cultivation purposes; and a "Super C" tractor for all the heavy work. A bailer is one vital piece of rolling stock missing and the farmer-of-the-year says that it will be added if this year's crop is good.

However, without the help of his wife, his son and his daughter, King says that it would have been virtually impossible for him to maintain his farm at its present high standard.

* * *

OTHER farming honors also come to King. In 1953 he was also named the best Negro soil conservation farmer in the state. In 1947, King became the first Negro farmer in Rockingham County to sow ladino clover and orchard grass And, in 1950, a scale model of the King farm was exhibited at the North Carolina State Fair to illustrate a farm where the family works together.

King will go to Hancock County, Georgia, in August to receive the Farmer of the Year award which will include a $100 cash award. He accompanied James Hooper to Hancock County in 1950, when Hooper was named top farmer in the state and says that he never thought that he would be going back to receive the honor himself.

Ike's gift ham marks high point in Johnston County swine program

SMITHFIELD, N.C. — Six years of constant effort and planning were climaxed recently when a champion ham and a dozen eggs were presented to the President and Mrs. Eisenhower by citizens of Smithfiled.

The ham came from the farm of Leonard Wiggs of Route Two, Kenly, and the eggs from chickens owned by Mrs. Annie Sanders of Route One, Garner.

The 13-pound sugar cured and hickory smoked ham was auctioned during the annual Smithfield Ham and Egg Show for a total of $715, or $55 a pound. The eggs were auctioned for $33 a dozen.

Marked High Point

The presentation of these items to the President marked a high point in a campaign started in 1944 by L. R. Johnson, county agent of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, State College, to improve the quality of swine produced by colored farmers in Johnston County.

Through the program, colored families produced $750,150 worth of hogs in 1952 as compared to $79,370 worth in 1945. The cash money received for hogs sold in 1952 was $372,000 as compared to $39,520 received in 1945.

In 1944 Mr. Johnson became disturbed over the plight of colored farmers in the area who were not only producing an inferior grade of swine, but were also losing two-thirds of their cured meat through over-salting, rapid spoilage and other improper curing methods.

Opened Campaign

He opened his campaign for better swine with a series of informal lectures, personal visitations, letters, bulletins, circulars, news stories and method demonstrations.

In 1948, to draw more attention to his program, the Ham Egg Show was born. It attracted 70 farmers who displayed 127 hams.

The next year eggs were also placed on display and 109 farmers entered 150 hams. The next year, 146 hams were exhibited and 30 were sold for $609.31, averaging $1.01 per pound.

In the 1951 show, 49 hams were sold for $1,163.66, averaging $1.10½ per pound. The 26-pound grand champion of the Rev. J. T. Hocutt, was sold for $130.

National Record Set

The national record for the price paid per pound for ham was shattered at the 1952 show when the Rev. Mr. Hocutt sold an 11 and a half-pound ham for $40 per pound.

From the small start in 1948, the show has grown to such an extent that this year eight district shows were held to select entries for the Smithfield exhibit. At these shows, 260 choice hams were selected from 749 finalists.

Not only has swine production increased in Johnston County, but permanent pasture acreage has also been increased from 172 acres in 1945 to 1,710 in 1952, to meet feed requirements.

The average corn yield on colored farms has increased during the same period from 22 bushels per acre to 50 bushels. Today 95 per cent of the meat slaughtered for home use is being saved, as compared to 65 per cent being lost in 1945 due to improper methods of curing.

More and better hogs are being produced in the county as more farmers accept the modern methods which have paid such rich dividends.

North Carolinan Farmer of Year

REIDSVILLE, N. C. — (ANP) —Because his entire family worked with him, Eugene King of Rockingham County last week was named North Carolina's "Farmer of the Year."

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King's entire 214 acres are sowed into some growing or cover crop. Presently, 11 head of beef cattle, eight dairy cows and 13 baby calves roam the farm and add to the income.

Listed among the projects King carried out to win the Farmer of the Year award are: Terracing of entire farm with life border, 22 acres of permanent pasture, eight acres of meadow strips, 9.3 acres to tobacco, one acre of cucumbers, 10 acres of wheat, 4½ acres of oats and barley, three acres of rye and an acre seeded to pines.

Mechanization had a lot to do with King's receiving the coveted award. He had a cub tractor for row cropping and cultivation purposes; and a "Super C" tractor for all the heavy work. A baler is one vital piece of rolling stock missing and the farmer-of-the-year says that it will be added if this year's crop is good.

Without the help of his wife, his son and his daughter, King says, it would have been virtually impossible for him to maintain his farm at its present high standard.

Other farming honors have also come to King. In 1953 he was also named the best Negro soil conservation farmer in the state. In 1947, King became the first Negro farmer in Rockingham county to show ladine clover and orchard grass. In 1950, a scale model of the King farm was exhibited at the North Carolina State Fair to illustrate a farm where the family works together.

King will go to Hancock county, Georgia, in August to receive the Farmer of the Year award which will include a $100 cash award.

Hobbsville Farmer Gets High Yields Of Cotton

HOBBSVILLE, N.C. (ANP) — Farmer N. L. Nowell, had a remarkable cotton yield this year to the tune of 2,500 pounds of seed cotton per acre—one-half times the average cotton yield in North Carolina.

According to H. L. Mitchell, county agent Gates, Nowell follows a good rotation, uses good seed and the right kind and amount of fertilizer, and dusted his cotton several times this season for boll weevil control.

He also made a good yield on his peanuts, averaging nearly 31 bags per acre on 73 acres. Despite a poor corn yield this year, he plans to continue raising hogs, which is one of the main farm activites.

Nowell is active in church affairs and is secretary-treasurer of the Farm Bureau and secretary of the credit committee of the Gates County Credit Union.

8,200 Pound Yield

Another Gates farmer, W. C. Goodman of Eure, also is proud of his cotton yield. He made 8,200 pounds on four acres, averaging better than 2,000 pounds to the acre.

Goodman also used recommended practices. Among other things he selected good soil, used Coker 100 seed, and prepared his seedbed carefully to get a good stand. He fertilized with 600 pojnds of 5-10-10 to the acre. He dusted once for weevil control.

A tenant on the Askew farm, Goodman also operates his own farm which he bought a few years ago. On both places he is producing good yields and is cooperating with the Extension Service program. He also is a local leader in 4-H Club work and has helped his son, William, win honors in junior dairy shows.

Ex-Tenant Farmer Now Worth $75,000

PINK HILL, N.C.

Gaston Branch, retired farmer of Route 1, Pink Hill, N.C., is now enjoying the fruits of his labor. "It hasn't been a path of roses all the way," Mr. Branch told his county agent.

He and his wife have reared 13 children. For 15 years they were tenant farmers, have owned and operated their own place for the past 22 years.

When asked the selling price for his farm, Mr. Branch replied that $75,000 could not buy him out.

Long been rated a prosperous farmer, using improved methods and modern machinery, he attributes much of his success to diversified farming, with special attention to livestock. He keeps a large herd of hogs and some cattle.

Prized Ham Brings $175 At Farm Show

A 13-pound grand champion ham brought its owner, Leonard Wiggs of Kenly, N.C., $65 a pound, or a total of $715 recently at the sixth annual Johnston County Ham and Egg Show, Smithfield, N.C., reports County Agent L. R. Johnson.

The second place ham was auctioned for $6 a pound, or a total of $66. It was owned by George Burns of Clayton. The premium price is paid in the auction to encourage swine production.

Altogether, 162 hams were exhibited. Of this number, 60 were auctioned for a total of $2,221.77 or an average of $2.59 per pound.

Mr. Johnson points out that the show is aimed at stimulating the farmers to raise more and better hogs, and to employ improved methods of trimming and curing their meat. Prior to the first show in 1948, colored farmers of the county were losing nearly a third of their ham and bacon through spoilage, Mr. Johnson reports. However, last year less than five per cent of the meat cured in the county was lost.

Negroes Making Progress In Dairy Farming

MONROE, N.C. — (ANP) — Negro farmers, generally, have been slow in developing Grade A dairy enterprises on their farms, according to S. T. Lloyd, Negro county agent, but they are making progress.

In an effort to interest more Union County Negro farmers in better grade milk production, both for home use and for sale commercially, Lloyd recently conducted a dairy field day. The program was held on the only Negro Grade A dairy farm in the country, that of J. D. Robinson, Monroe, Route 1.

The county agent says the day can be called a success simply because more than 50 farmers and wives turned out to see just what can be done with the home milk enterprise through careful planning. Demonstrations were given on clipping and fitting animals for show, and dehorning.

Lloyd talked about dairy feeds, pointing to an exhibit of the feed required by a 1,000 pound cow producing 35 pounds of 4 per cent milk per day. Three feeding programs were outlined: one using good quality legume hay silage and a small amount of grain; a second using poor quality hay, silage and 16 pounds of 20 per cent dairy feed; and the third, using 125 pounds of green clover and grass from permanent pasture with no grain or hay at all.

Robinson and Lloyd showed the group through the dairy barn, the newly constructed silo, then walked out onto the farm's 27 acres of excellent permanent pasture.

A second Negro farmer in the county is now building a Grade A dairy barn, Lloyd says. He is James Burns, who recently drove over to Charlotte to get assurance of a market for his milk when his barn is finished. He now has that assurance and Union County should have its second Negro Grade A milk producer very soon.

Negroes Making Great Progress In Dairy Farming

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Negro Farmer Likes New Ideas, Says County Agent

RALEIGH, N. C. — (ANP) — Negro farmers generally are willing to go along with new and progressive ideas in agriculture, according to W. F. Wright, Nash county Negro farm agent.

The Negro farmer is almost always willing to conduct a crop variety or soil conservation demonstration on his farm, says Wright. And this is one of the basic methods of learning.

"One way Nash County farmers can increase their income this year and in future years," according to Wright "is by adopting recommended practices for the production of field crops."

In this connection, Wright has set up several crop variety and soil conservation demonstrations throughout his country "to prove on a local, or community basis, the value of using recommended practices."

In order to compare the yield and quality of recommended hybrids with open pollinated corn hybrids, W. M. Kingsberry of Whitakers, Route 2, has seeded one-fourth acre plots of N. C. 27, N. C. 1032, Dixie 18, 82, all yellow varities, and N. C. 29, N. C. 31 and Coker 811, all white varieties. Kingsberry's farm is located on soil typical of that found in the eastern section of Nash County.

Over on the western side of the county, Freeman Richardson of Middlessex, Route 2, has seeded one-fourth acre plots of N. C. 27, N. C. 1032, U. S. 282, Dixie 82, all yellow, and N. C. 29, N. C. 31 and Coker 911, all white.

Cary Moody of Nashville, Route 2, has seeded one field to N. C. 36, yellow, which will be compared for "hoging down" purposes (letting swine run freely on the corn field.)

'54 Ham, Egg Show Plans Under Way

SMITHFIELD, N.C. (ANP) — One reason for the growing success of Johnston county's annual ham and egg show and sale may be that the farmers and farm wives of the county begin thinking about next year's event almost as soon as they are finished with the current one.

L. R. Johnson, county agent for the Agricultural Extension Service, says that discussions are now going on with groups of farmers and farm wives throughout the county in an effort to make next year's show a "bigger and better-than-ever event."

They're A Part Of It

Perhaps, says Mr. Johnson, this is one reason for the unusual success of the event because cooperation on the part of a great many of the county's farm families. They are asked for help and suggestions and are made to feel that they have a real part in the program.

Mr. Johnson is getting good attendance at his rural meetings by showing motion pictures of the recent event which brought one farmer $71 for a single ham and one housewife $33.50 for a dozen eggs. The prize ham and eggs were presented to President Eisenhower.

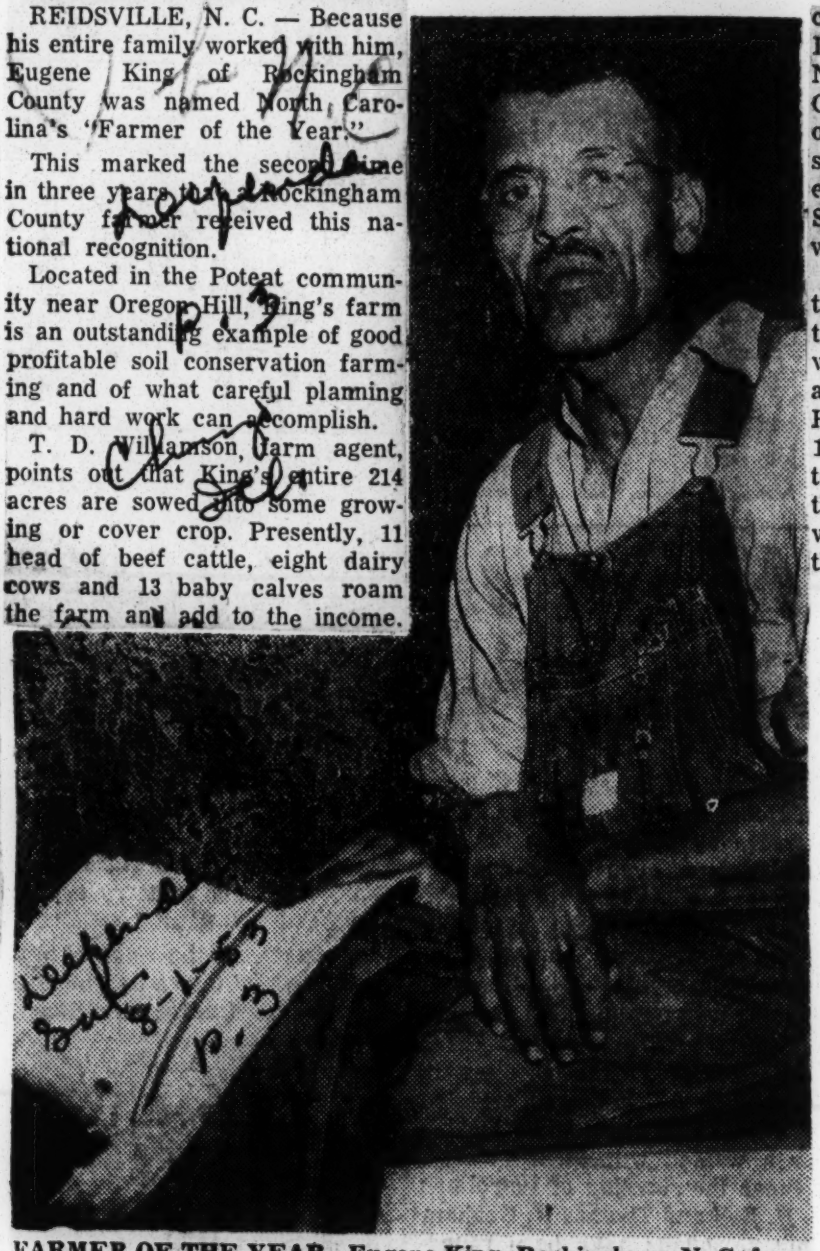
Eugene King Is North Carolina 'Farmer Of Year'

REIDSVILLE, N. C. — Because his entire family worked with him, Eugene King of Rockingham County was named North Carolina's "Farmer of the Year."

This marked the second time in three years that a Rockingham County farmer received this national recognition.

Located in the Poteat community near Oregon Hill, King's farm is an outstanding example of good profitable soil conservation farming and of what careful planning and hard work can accomplish.

T. D. Williamson, farm agent, points out that King's entire 214 acres are sowed into some growing or cover crop. Presently, 11 head of beef cattle, eight dairy cows and 13 baby calves roam the farm and add to the income.



FARMER OF THE YEAR—Eugene King, Rockingham, N. C. farmer, has been named North Carolina "Farmer of the Year" as a result of success gained in a well rounded soil conservation program conducted during the past year on his massive, 214 acre farm.

Listed among the projects King carried out to win the Farmer of the Year award are: terracing of entire farm, wild life border, 22 acres of permanent pasture, eight acres of meadow strips, 9.3 acres of tobacco, one acre of cucumbers, ten acres of wheat, four and a half acres of oats and barley and three acres of rye and an acre seeded to pines.

Mechanization had a lot to do with King's receiving the coveted award. He has a cub tractor for row cropping and cultivation purposes: and a "Super C" tractor for all the heavy work. A bailer is one vital piece of rolling stock missing and the farmer-of-the-year says that it will be added if this year's crop is good.

However, without the help of his wife, his son and his daughter, King says that it would have been virtually impossible for him to maintain his farm at its present high standard.

Other farming honors have also come to King. In 1953 he was also named the best Negro soil conservation farmer in the state. In 1947, King became the first Negro farmer in Rockingham County to sow ladino clover and orchard grass. And in 1950, a scale model of the King farm was exhibited at the North Carolina State Fair to illustrate a farm where the family works together.

King will go to Hancock County, Georgia, in August to receive the Farmer of the Year award which will include a $100 cash award. He accompanied James Hooper to Hancock County in 1950, when Hooper was named top farmer in the State and says that he never thought that he would be going back to receive the honor himself.

1b 1953

OKLAHOMA

NEGRO FARMER GETS AWARD FOR HIGH CORN YIELD

Washington, D. C., Feb. 2.—(Special)—Robert Simpson of McCurtain County, Okla., received an award recently from a hybrid seed firm for obtaining an average yield of 114 bushels of corn per acre on a five-acre plot, reports County Agent A. B. Murry. The average corn yield in Oklahoma last year was only 13 bushels per acre, and the 10-year average, 1941 to 1951 is only 18.4 bushels per acre.

Mr. Simpson obtained his high yield by plowing under hairy vetch on the five acres prior to seeding a hybrid variety. The proper amount of fertilizer was applied at the time of planting and the corn was side-dressed with 150 pounds of ammonium nitrate.

Brother Of Local Man Given Top Farmer Award

Everett W. Trout, brother of Tuskegee Institute's director of public relations, Charles E. Trout, has been named No. 1 Soil Conservation Farmer for the state of Oklahoma.

With winners from nine other states he will attend the annual South-wide Soil Conservation Jamboree at Log Cabin Center near Mayfield, Ga., on Thursday. From the group of 10 the South's best Conservation farmer will be picked.

Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life, will make the awards.

Claiborne Carter, of Alma, Ala., will represent Alabama in this year's Soil Conservation Jamboree.

Trout has graduated two sons from Tuskegee Institute and has another who will return to school in the Fall as a senior.

Ex-Sharecropper Triples Yields, Named Soil Conservation Champion

A former sharecropper of Alabama, who has tripled his corn and cotton yields on land that used to be run-down and eroded, was named the 1953 colored soil conservation champion of the South last week at the Log Cabin, Ga., Jamboree.

The new champion is Claiborne Carter of Alma, Ala., who sharecropped and tenant farmed all his life up to 1938 when the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture made him a loan to buy a 160-acre farm of his own.

In winning the top honor at the Jamboree, Mr. Carter outstripped nine other state soil conservation champions. Closest runners-up were E. C. Fore of Marion, S. C., who took second place, and Oran Waddleton of Winnsboro, Texas, who was awarded third place honors.

OTHER WINNERS

John Gammon, jr., Marion, Ark.; Tylear Sanders, jr., Quincy, Fla.; Arthur Ricks, Mt. Vernon, Ga.; Eugene King, Ruffin, N. C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla.; Gilbert Bryant, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; and Harvey L. Turner, Stuart, Va.

Awards totaling $1,050 were made available by Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro County Life, and were presented by various leaders at the event. Mr. Carter received $150 and the others were awarded $100 each.

The Jamboree address was delivered by J. W. Sargent, assistant director of the Southeastern Region of Soil Conservation Service. He praised the farmers for setting examples in sound soil and water conservation and for the part they and the association are playing in helping to make the nation aware of the importance of conserving the soil resources of America.

A CHECK for $150 is presented Claiborne Carter (center) soil conservation champion, of Alma, Ala., by Josephus Johnson, farmers home farm management superpisor-at-large of Georgia; and J. W. Sargent, assistant southeastern regional director of soil conservation service. Award was presented last week at Log Cabin.

Mr. Sargent was introduced by W. F. Hall, a supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District, who has helped to guide the Jamboree since its founding by Dr. Hubert eight years ago.

The soil conservation champion was chosen state winner to represent Alabama by his district, the Mobile River Soil Conservation District. He merited the recognition by converting a gulled, run-down and eroded farm into one of the outstanding production units in his state.

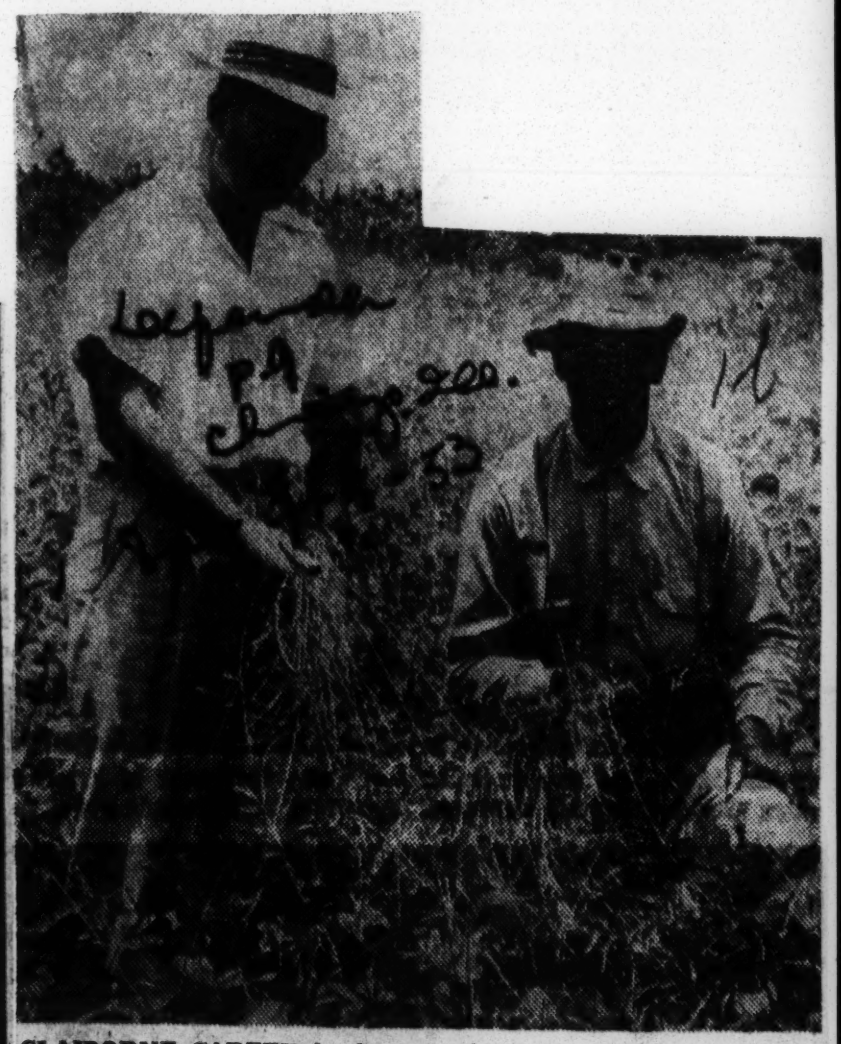
When Mr. Carter bought the place 15 years ago, it took nearly six acres of the poor land to produce a single bale of cotton and the corn yield was down as low as eight bushels per acre. Today he gets half a bale of cotton to the acre and his corn yield is up to 25 bushels per acre.

IT TOOK PLANNING

"It took planning and hard work," says Mr. Carter. When he ended his first year on the place with barely enough to meet his note, he had begun to think the farm was a booby trap and wondered if he hadn't been better off tenant farming.

Then his Farmers Home supervisor, Herbert A. Bean, suggested that he call on his soil conservation district for help. The district sent a Soil Service technician, H. S. Saucier, to help him doctor his land.

Together, they made a soil capability study of the farm and mapped it, designating how each acre might best be used. Some acres were to be terraced, others drained, some put in pastures and kudzu was to be planted on some slopes to help halt erosion.



CLAIBORNE CARTER is shown on his farm with Conservationist H. S. Saucier (standing) who helped him develope soil and water conservation plans. Adoption of the plans has greatly increased Carter's corn and cotton yields.

TRANSLATED PLANS

When Mr. Carter took the plans off paper and translated them into a reality on his farm, with the help of his FHA supervisor, his county agent and the vocational agriculture teacher, his yields shot up and his bony cattle and hogs began to fill out.

"I used to lose five or six head of cattle every year," Mr. Carter recalls, "The animals were just too thin to make it through the winter." Now his cattle and swine are fat and he hasn't lost an animal in years. Last year he sold 13 head of beef cattle, 17 hogs and $100 worth of eggs.

"I like conservation farming," the champion says, "because it pays. It makes living better for me and my family."

TOP CONSERVATION FARMERS of the South are snapped with W. F. Hall, a supervisor of the Piedmont Soil Conversation district. Claiborne Carter, Southwide soil conservation champion, is showing Hall his $150 check. Others in the back row are: John Gammon, jr., Marion, Ark.: Tylear Sanders, jr.; Quincy, Fla.; Eugene King, Ruffin , N. C.; Everett Trout, Haskell, Okla. and Behjamin Anthony, Arkansas' 1952 winner. In front row are: E. C. Fore, Marion, S. C.; Gilbert Bryant, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; Oran Waddleton, Winnsboro, Texas; and Harvey L. Turner, Stuart, Va. Each of these State winners received a check for $100.

S. C. Tenant Farmer Named King Of Cotton

Layer on p.4 Clemson.

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (ANP) — Bosie Williams, 31-year-old tenant farmer who won county and district awards, last week went on to win the South Carolina state annual five-acre cotton contest. He received $750 first prize money.

The first known Negro to win the contest in the 25 years it has been conducted, Williams produced 5,-91[illegible] pounds of lint cotton on five acres. He said he planned to put his prize money back in his farm.

The Abbeville county farmer's yield was short of the record 8,380 pounds produced in 1951. His nearest competitor this year produced 5,170 pounds.

Winners in the state, district and county contest were announced and prizes were awarded at a luncheon here presided over by Director D. W. Watkins of the Clemson college extension service, who supervised the contest.

The district prizes, donated like the state prizes by the South Carolina Textile Manufacturers Associ-[illegible]n, were $200 for first place.

Williams, a former 4-H clubster, is a World War II veteran who spent three years overseas. He has entered the contest every year he has farmed. He won a district second prize in 1950.

Besides cotton, he and his father raise corn, swine and chickens on the 50-acre farm they rent.

He attributed his good yield in a bad cotton year to good seed direct from the breeder, proper fertilization, good spacing, timely poisoning and hard work.

1 b 1953

Its a Long Pull From Sharecropping To a $70,000 Farm But this Man Did it

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Putting science into farming is the sure way to succeed, says William Lewis Collins, $30,000-a-year Clarksville, Tenn., colored farmer who has climbed up from sharecropping to ownership of a 531-acre farm valued at $70,000.

A report on his achievement was received by the U. S. Department of Agriculture last week from Assistant State Agent W. H. Williamson of the Tennessee agricultural extension service.

Dairying, swine, corn, and tobacco production are Mr. Collins' main cash crops. But wheat brings an additional $600. Also to the receipts should be added the savings on groceries for his family of seven. For them, the grocery store is mostly a place to buy sugar and coffee and canning jar rings.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins started out as sharecroppers in 1928, shortly after their marriage. Two years later, the land-hungry couple scraped together $200 and made the down-payment on 50 acres of good tobacco land which cost them $1,600. The next year, as the depression deepened and land values dived, they bargained to buy 96 acres more.

By 1941, they had bought and paid for 202 acres and were in shape to begin putting something away for the education of their five children. Then came Pearl Harbor and the establishment of Camp Campbell in the middle of their community.

The army paid them $4,700 for their farm and they moved 15 miles on the other side of Clarksville and started all over again. By 1946, they had acquired two plots containing 531 acres, at a cost of $36,000. "We really wanted at least 500 acres," Mr. Collins explains, "so that each of our children could start out with 100 acres."

And he pampers his land to get high yields. Periodically, he has County Agent John R. Branham send samples of it to the state agronomy laboratory at the University of Tennessee for analysis to find out what treatment individual plots need and what crops they will grow best. Also, he maintains demonstration plots for fertilizer tests for his corn, tobacco, hay and sweetpotatoes.

"I like to know what my land needs," asserts Mr. Collins, "then I feed it same as I do my cattle and hogs." Soil Conservation service technicians from the Montgomery County Soil Conservation Service district have helped him develop a complete soil and water conservation plan for his farm.

On their 13-acre tobacco allotment in 1951, the Collinses produced 18,000 pounds of burley which brought them $7,000. Their corn yield averages 8,000 bushels on 100 acres, or 80 bushels per acre. The state average is only about 30 bushels per acre. However, the drought cut their output last year. They plant nothing but hybrid varieties. The corn is used to feed their 165 head of dairy cattle and 70 hogs.

The Collinses' milk production of this goes to a cheese factory in averages of 250 gallons a day. Most of this goes to a cheese factory in Hopkinsville, Ky., 25 miles away. They say their milk check averages close to $2,000 per month. But they point out that high production costs take a big bite out of it.

Their pastures of ladino clover, fescue, and orchard grass yield adequate grazing for their herd and pig crop. Also, they cut and store about 8,000 bales of hay every fall and fill two trench silos to feed their cattle through the winter months.

"Next on our list," Mr. Collins points out, "is a Grade A barn so that we can sell to milk distributors and get a better price than we are now receiving from cheese factories."

The Collinses have three tractors, two hay balers, a combine, a hay rake, feed chopper, two trucks, milking machines, and an insect sprayer. "Machinery saves time and reduces costs," says Mr. Collins in a matter-of-fact tone.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins are working toward a dream which they hope their children will see fully realized. Their oldest son plans taking some special courses in dairying at Tennessee State university where his sister was graduated in 1951. The other three children plan going to college, too. "When they come back," says Mr. Collins, "we are really going to have a first class dairy."

HARVESTING 400 ACRES OF RICE — Shirley Banks, center, of Garwood, Texas, is one of the largest Negro rice farmers of the Nation, growing over 400 acres of the grain. He is discussing the quality of his rice with State Extension Leader W. C. Davis, left; and County Agent S. E. Chase. Mr. Banks owns more than $40,000 worth of farm equipment. In the background are combines, trucks, hauling carts, and fuel supply truck. — USDA Photo.

400-Acre Rice Farmer Was Field Hand For Twenty Years

It took nearly 20 years of day laboring in rice fields for Shirley Banks of Garwood, Texas to get started on his own, but today he is one of the outstanding Negro rice farmers of the Nation, says State Leader W. C. David of the Texas Extension Service in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The 43-year-old farmer owns more than 40,000 worth of tractors, combines, and other equipment, says Mr. David, and he raises 400 acres of rice, producing nearly 9000 barrels annually.

Mr. Banks started working in rice fields as a boy. Soon he learned production methods and knew how to operate the machines used in the cultivation and harvest of the crop. But it took nearly 20 years of skimping and saving and hoping to ge tstarted on his own... Eleven years ago still without equipment of his own, Mr. Banks thought of giving up rice and turning to cotton like most of his neighbors. However, he decided to stick on a while longer.

Shortly afterward, the heir to the farm on which he worked came into possession of it, but did not wish to remain in farming. So, he offered to sell Mr. Banks part of the equipment for $2,500 on easy terms. This was the break the day laborer had longed for. With his savings he made the down-payment on the implements which included a tractor, two wagons, a separator, and some plows.

Then he made arrangements to rent some land, obtain water for irrigation, and to have a nearby plant dry his rice. The first year, he tried his hand with 100 acres. Since then, he has gradually increased his rented acreage.

Last year, he harvested 8,500 barrels off 425 acres. County Agent S. E. Chase helps him with knotty production problems.

Some years, Mr. Banks has received as much as 13 a barrel for his rice, and others as little as $5.. ..."This means," says the rice farmer, "some years I make pretty good, but others I either barely break even, or lose money."

He points out that rice is an expensive crop to grow. "First you have to have machinery, then you have to pay for water— about 15 an acre; you have to buy fertilizer and hire a plane to drop it over your flooded field; and you have to have help and have your rice dried; and unles you own a lot of land so that you can carry out a two-year rotation, you have to rent some," says Mr. Banks, totaling up his costs.

He and Mrs. Banks own 65 acres which they use as a home site and as pasture for their 52 head of beef cattle. They rent some more for livestock, and 500 acres for rice, using the same area every other year.

Furing the peak of the harvest which was reached on their farm about two weeks ago, they had six men at work, operating their two combines, four tractors, and two trailer trucks. Altogether, they own more than 40,000 worth of equipment .When the machines aren't busy in their own fields they are in their neighbors' fields doing custom work.

Looking to the future, Mr. and Mrs. Banks plan to buy enough land for their rice crop and their cattle. "We'll have nothing but rice and pastures," says Mr. Banks.

The Bankses have two youngsters, a modern home, and sheds for their implements. He spends part of the winter oiling, painting and repairing the machinery, and part of it in his county agent's office, talking over problems, and planning for the future.

Sells $60,000 Worth Of Cucumbers

HOPKINS COUNTY, Tex. — (ANP)--According to data received from representatives of cucumber sheds located at Pickton and Yantis, Negro farm families sold $60,000 worth of cucumbers. This is 55 percent of all the cucumbers sold in Hopkins county.

The average family sold from $350 to $500 worth of cucumbers. In other words, these families made $300 or more off one acre. Some families sold more than $1,200 worth off their patch.

There will be a market for this crop next year at the same location, growers said that they like to grow cucumbers because they come off at a time when ready cash is a premium.

Young Farmer Grossing $14,000 On Texas Acres

Arizona
4-12-1953
St. Louis, Mo.
p. 3

LULING, Texas—A 22-year-old former star 4-M Club youth, who won more than 50 ribbons and a number of cash awards with his farm projects, has converted his training and experience into a $14,000-a-year gross income as full operator of his parents' 300-acre farm, says Texas Extension Leader W. C. David in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The young colored farmer is Robert "Bobbie" Adams. He graduated from high school and a partnership with his father in 1948, and took over the family farm on a rental basis. His four older brothers had turned down similar offers in order to take industrial jobs in California.

"I've always wanted to be a farmer," says the former 4-H'er, who likes raising pigs and calves, driving a tractor, and wearing cowboy boots. His first project ten years ago was a Poland China pig that took first place in the county show. Since that time, he has won 53 ribbons and more than $2,000 in prizes and premiums with his pigs, fat calves and other farm projects. His 1952 champion Poland China sold for the premium price of $752.

"I guess I've sold over 400 head of hogs and about 50 calves," says the young farmer who gets pointers on raising livestock from his county agent, R. A. Sanders. His hogs and cattle are said to be among the best in Guadalupe County. Often he sells pigs and calves practically at cost to clubbers to help them get started with better breed livestock. His own projects won him a trip to the first Southside Regional 4-H camp in 1948.

In addition to hogs and cattle, Mr. Adams raises turkeys, corn, hay, peanuts, cotton and watermelons. Last year, he had 40 hogs and 55 head of cattle. "I'm not doing well with my cattle because of the drought and lower prices," he says, "but I'm trying to hold my own."

During good years, Mr. Adams' livestock, crops and custom work have been bringing him close to $14,000 gross. He does custom work with his tractor and haybaler. "When Bobbie isn't working on his own farm," says County Agent Sanders, "he's out helping his neighbors."

Last year, he earned $1,400 with his haybaler. He also owns a small truck a, fertilizer spreader, and a power sprayer to help protect his livestock from flies and other insects.

Looking to the future, the young farmer plans to get out of cotton production altogether. "My yield is too low and the cost of production is too high," he says. Instead, he plans to buy some additional land, and develop more pastures for his livestock and poultry.

The former star clubber is still single and living with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Adams. He has helped them install electricity, purchase a refrigerator, and make other improvements in their home. He still likes 4-H Club work and serves as a junior leader.

State Leader Adams points out that Mr. Adams is an excellent example of the value of 4-H training. "Bobbie is an inspiration to every farm boy in Texas," he says in praise of the young farmer.

22-Year-Old Former Star 4-H'er Grossing $14,000 On Family Farm

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$14,000 GROSS

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TELLS FUTURE PLANS

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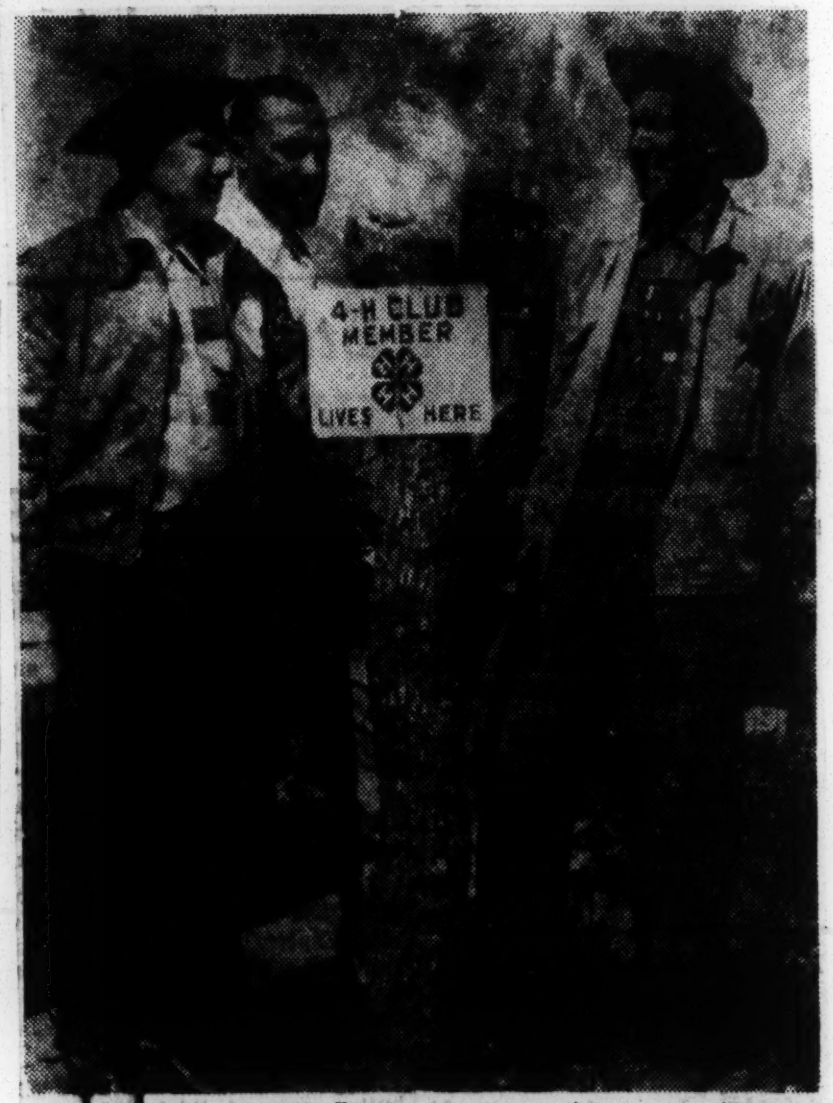

ALTHOUGH "BOBBIE" ADAMS (left) is now beyond the age limit (10-21) to remain in 4-H work, he plans to leave the sign up. It reads: "4-H Club Members Lives Here." Standing by the sign with the youth are County Agent R. A. Sanders and the youth's father, C. H. Adams, who has turned his farm over to his son. USDA photos.

ROBERT "BOBBIE" ADAMS (right) a former 4-H'er of Luling, Texas, shows State Extension Leader W. C. David his collection of banners ribbons he won over a 10-year period with his farm projects. Altogether he has won 54 ribbons and more than $2,000 in prizes and premiums.

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20 YEARS OF SAVING

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TO REMAIN IN FARMING

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EXPENSIVE CROP

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6 MEN A TWORK

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Piney Point Farmer Nets $2,000 With Okra

HOUSTON — On four acres of land, Jacob Williams, 65, of Route , Piney Point has made $2,000 this year raising okra.

Williams began harvesting okra in the later part of June and will continue to gather it until the first heavy frost falls. In the early part of the okra season, the 65-year oll farmer sold his produce for $10 a bushel, but as the season comes to a close, it has dropped to $2.

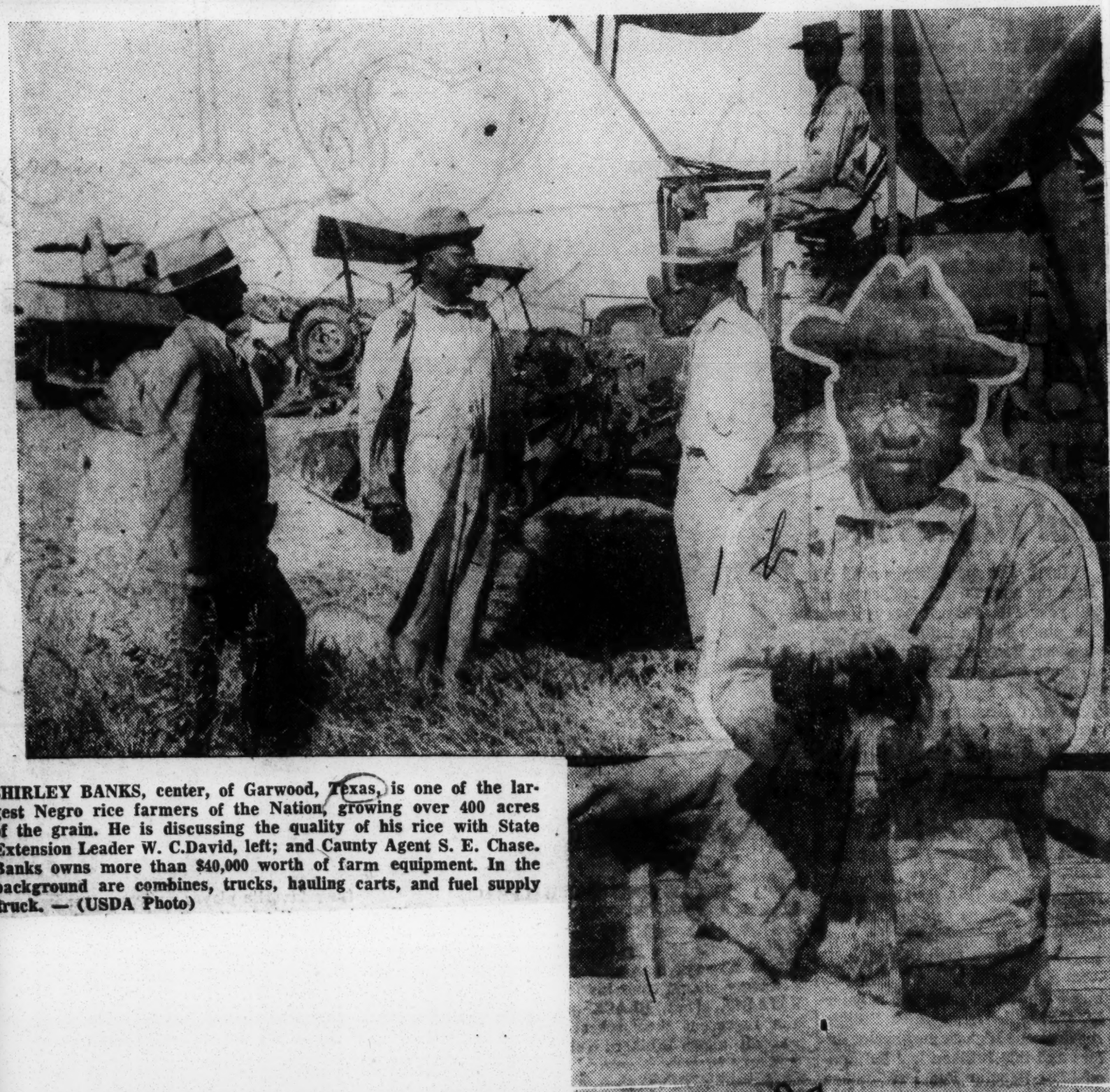
Although Williams still uses a horse and mule, he grows the improved okra variety recommended for this section of Texas. The farmer said because of his advanced age, he does not plan to buy a tractor for his small acreage.

Because of the limited amount of land available for farming in Harris County, Williams found that he could grow a profitably crop of okra on his small piece of land. He became an okra farmer 10 years ago.

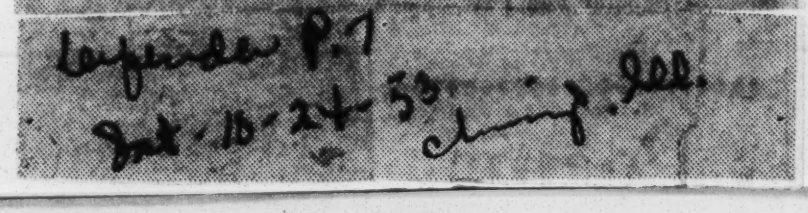
Besides okra, the farmer grows a little cotton, and raises vegetables for year round home use.

In addition to his farm duties, the okra farmer is a trustee and the deacon of the Union Center AME Church. He is the main carpenter for the new church which is being constructed by the AME group.

Field Hand 20 Years Ago, Texas Farmer Has 400-Acre Rice Farm



SHIRLEY BANKS, center, of Garwood, Texas, is one of the largest Negro rice farmers of the Nation, growing over 400 acres of the grain. He is discussing the quality of his rice with State Extension Leader W. C.David, left; and Caunty Agent S. E. Chase. Banks owns more than $40,000 worth of farm equipment. In the background are combines, trucks, hauling carts, and fuel supply truck. — (USDA Photo)



THE FROWN on Shirley Bank's face has nothing to do with his 9,000 barrel rice crop. It's the Texas sun. Proud of the quality of his grain, Banks holds up a double handful scooped up from the pile in the partially filled truck. — (USDA Photo)

Of FARMS and FARMERS

GARWOOD, TEXAS — It took nearly 20 years of day laboring in rice fields for ShirleyBanks of Garwood, Texas, to get started on his own, but today he is one of the outstandingNegro rice farmers of the Nation, says State Leader W. C. David of the Texas Extension Service in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The 43-year-old farmer owns more than $40,000 worth of tractors, combines and othtr equipment, says Mr. David, and he raises 400 acres of rice, producing nearly 9,000 barrels annually.

STARTED YOUNG

Banks started working in rice fields as a boy. Soon he learned production methods and knew how to operate the machines used in the cultivation and harvest of the crop. But it took nearly 20 years of skimping and saving and hoping to get started on his own.

Eleven years ago, still without equipment of his own, Mr. Banks thought of giving up rice and turning to cotton like most of his neighbors. However, he decided to stick on a while longer.

Shortly afterward, the heir to the farm on which he worked came into possession of it, but did not wish to remain in farming. So, he offered to sell Mr. Banks part of the equipment for $2,500 on easy terms. This was the break the day laborer had longed for. With his savings he made the down-payment on the implements which included a tractor, two wagons, a seperator, and some plows.

RENTED LAND

Then he made arrnagements to rent some land, obtain water for irrigation, and to have a nearby plant dry his rice. The first year, he tried his hand with 100 acres. Since then, he has gradually increased his rented acreage. Last year, he harvested 8,500 barrels off 425 acres. County Agent S. E. Chase helps him with knotty production problems.

Some years, Banks has received as much as $13 a barrel for his rice, and others as little as $5. "This means," says the rice farmer, "some years I make pretty good, but others I either barely break even, or lose money."

He points out that rice is an expensive crop to grow. "First, you have to have machinery, then about $15 an acre: you have to buy fertilizer and hire a plane to drop it over your flooded fild; and you have to hire help, and have your rice dried; and unless you own a lot of land so that you can carry out a two-year rotation, you have to rent some," says Mr. Banks, totaling up his costs.

RENT MORE LAND

He and Mrs. Banks own 65 acres which they use as a home site and as pasture for their 52 head of beef cattle. They rent some more for livestock, and 500 acres for rice, using the same area every other year.

During the peak of the harvest which was reached on their farm about two weeks ago, they had six men at work, operating their two combines, four tractors, and they own more than $40,000 worth of equipment. When the machines aren't busy in their own fields, they are in their neighbors' fields doing custom work.

Looking to the future, Mr. and Mrs. Banks plan to buy enough land for their rice crop and their cattle. "We'll have nothing but rice and pastures," says Mr. Banks.

The Banks' have two youngsters, a modern home, and sheds for their implements. He spends part of the winter oiling, painting, and repairing the machinery, and part of it in his county agent's office, talking over problems, and planning for the future.

1b 1953

MR. THOMAS M. CAMPBELL
First County Agent

Cited For 46 Years Service As Farm Agent

DUBLIN, Ga. — Thomas M. Campbell, the nation's first county agent, was honored for 46 years of exceptional service in agricultural extension work at the second annual state 4-H club congress last week.

Campbell was presented with a placque on behalf of Georgia agents by P. H. Stone, state agent for Negro work. Campbell is now field agent for Negro extension work in 13 southern states with headquarters at Tuskegee, Ala. He directs about 800 people.

He began his career as a carriage boy for Booker T. Washington while he was a student of Dr. George Washington Carver at Tuskegee.

A record of service with the U. S. Department of Agriculture ended recently when Field Agent T. M. Campbell retired from active duty here at Tuskegee Institute, February 28. Beginning at Tuskegee as the nation's first colored county agent he served over 46 years going up from county through district, state, and regional levels. He says, "I mean to continue working with and for the rural and urban folks in an advisory capacity to help them maintain and strengthen their morale." (ANP)

Campbell Urges Work Well Done

Tues, 5-12-53

T. M. Campbell, Sr., retired field agent for the U. S. Extension Service, was guest speaker at William's Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church at Vesper service on Sunday, speaking on the subject, "A Few Things We Must Get Straight"

Mr. Campbell told his audience that everyone cannot engage in the professions and that we must reemphasize the importance of household service occupations which are considered to be significant employment in most of the countries of the world. "No one should apply for an opportunity to work in the home of another unless he or she is willing and able to do well whatever is required, is healthy and clean of person and is a sanitarian." He said that persons interested in household employment should take advantage of every opportunity to learn how to do the job well or better.

"Old and young alike must attend to the job of improving their environment, and one sure way to that end is for all of us to try to improve ourselves and the service we have to render," said the speaker.

Pastor S. M. Brown, of William Chapel, told his congregation, "Hear this man, stay as close as you can to this man. He has helped many to see the light. He may say something here today that will change your entire life for the better.

MRS. L. R. DALY, home agent of Macon County, presents a portable radio to T. M. Campbell, retired field agent, as a token of goodwill from Tuskegee Institute and extension workers. The presentation was made at Tuskegee Institute during a reception recognizing Mr. Campbell's retirement from service after more than 46 years. Looking on (left to right) are Mrs. D. D. Allen of Tuskegee who served as Mr. Campbell's secretary, and Mrs. Campbell.

COTTON CHOPPERS may be replaced by chemicals, says U. S. Department of Agriculture. Here two officials of the department look at a cotton weed-control exhibit in the patio of the department in Washington, D. C. They are observing how some rows of cotton, to which chemicals have been applied, are completely free of weeds and grass while other untreated rows are thick with weeds. Left to right, L. J. Washington, agriculturist of the Farmers Home Administration, and Sherman Briscoe, USDA information specialist.

Firms back farm loans

$800,000 invested within four years

WASHINGTON

During the past four years colored insurance companies, fraternal organizations and a bank have invested more than $800,000 in the insured farm mortgage program in cooperation with the Farmers Home Administration of the Department of Agriculture.

The largest amount of money advanced for this purpose by a single investor was $245,000 by the Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Alabama Masons.

Others who have made funds available for the insured farm mortgage program since it began operations the latter part of 1947 to extend the benefits of farm ownership to as many farm families as possible include:

Groups Listed

The Atlanta Life Insurance co., The Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Louisiana Masons; the Good Citizens Life Insurance co., New Orleans; The Supreme Liberty Life Insurance co., Chicago; The Pilgrims Health, Life and Insurance co., Augusta, Georgia; The North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance co., Durham; The Dunbar Life Insurance co., Cleveland; The Grand Court, Order of Calanthe, Houston; and the Citizens Trust co. of Atlanta.

These 100 per cent loans have been made to more than 7,000 white and colored farmers in the United States since inception of the program for a total of $62,675,000 as of June 30.

They have enabled farm tenants, sharecroppers and farm laborers and veterans to buy family-type farms of their own or to improve or enlarge their holdings to efficient and productive units.

Review Progress of Colored Farmers in 1952

Journal and Guide
Nr. 1-3-53 P.20
Norfolk, Va.

Field Agents T. M. Campbell and John W. Mitchell of the U. S. Department of Agriculture are shown studying Extension Service reports which reveal the progress of Negro farmers in 1952. These two farm leaders work with agricultural Extension supervisors in the 17 southern states. Mr. Campbell is headquartered at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and Mr. Mitchell, at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.—(USDA photo by Hunton)

Extension Field Agent Made National Leader

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Promotion of John W. Mitchell, Extension Service field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to the newly created post of national leader on the staff of the Director of Cooperative Extension Work was announced this week by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson.

Mr. Mitchell, who began work for Extension Service as a buggy-driving emergency agricultural agent in two North Carolina counties 36 years ago, is the first colored Extension worker to be promoted to national leader. His headquarters will be transferred from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., to the Department here in Washington by September 15.

SCOPE OF WORK

The promotion broadens the scope of Mr. Mitchell's duties from regional to national level. And although the larger part of his work will still be with State Extension directors and Negro Extension supervisors in the South, he also will counsel with Extension Director C. M. Ferguson on national problems relevant to the agency's program.

COUNTY AGENT

"I regard Mr. Mitchell as highly qualified for the position to which he is being assigned," says Director Ferguson. "And I consider his promotion only as a first step in a long range program to further develop and strengthen the work with Negro farm families and 4-H club youths.

As an Extension career employee, Mr. Mitchell has worked his way up through the ranks from emergency agent to county agent, to district agent, and then to State Extension agent of Negro work in North Carolina. From that post he joined the federal staff as field agent in 1943, succeeding the late John B. Pierce.

Arkansas Holds Its First Forestry Camp For Negro 4-H And NFA Boys

State Press p. 1

The first Forestry Camp for Negro 4-H and NFA members in Arkansas and one of the first in the United States was held at the Nevada county training school at Rosston, last month.

Twenty-one 4-H club boys attended from 15 counties located in the piney woods section of Arkansas. Also attending were 24 NFA members.

Divided into four groups the boys studied different phases of forestry each day. Instructions were given in fire prevention, fire control, tree identification and forest management. The teaching staff consisted of professional foresters chosen from the lumber industry as well as the cooperating agencies. At the completion of each course the boys were given a test in order to measure their progress.

The camp was not all work. A recreation program was provided in which the boys had an opportunity to know each other better through participation in active games.

Closing night appropriate awards were given to four boys who were selected as outstanding in particular fields. Denzeral Bell, a 4-H club member from Columbia county was selected as the best all around camper and was given a cross cut saw. This was the top award offered at the camp. LeRoy Browning, a NFA member was selected by the boys as the most popular camper and being selected as the most talented camper. Billy Scoggins was the best [illegible] was given an axe.

Agencies cooperating in this training program were the State Forestry and Parks commission, Vocational division of the State department of Education and the Agricultural Extension service, University of Arkansas college of agriculture.

The funds for the camp were contributed through the Southern Pulpwood Conservation association of Crossett Lumber company, Ozan Lumber company, Bradley Lumber company, Deltic Land and Timber company, Fordyce Lumber company and Frost Lumber industries, Incorporated.

awarded a cigarette lighter for

MEMORABLE SCENES OF STATE'S 4-H WINNERS AT TUSKEGEE—Helen Tibbs, of Madison County, dress revue winner, left, and Ella Mae Sims, of Sumter County, clothing winner are seen (in top left photo) observing a dress which was a part of Ella's winning wardrobe.

HERE HE WINNING dairy foods demonstration team is seen (in top center photo) in action They are Frances Hughes and Mattie Morrow both of Greene County

LUCILE AND CORINE BURTS, sisters, of Randolph County, (seen in top right photo) were top demonstration team in bread-making team.

TOP HONOR FOR BAKING was won by Ella Louise Logan, of Lowdnes County, (seen in bottom left photo). Ella's award was a $100 scholarship—the Calumet Baking Powder donation for state winner. Ella was dairy foods winner, too.

THE GIRLS—all happy to be winners—are seen (at bottom left) looking over the list of donors and awards. They received Defense Bonds, watches, and medals for their accomplishments.

In the group are, front row, left right: Frances Hughes, dairy foods team, Greene County; Bobby Jean Houston, food preparation, Randolph County; Ella Mae Sims, clothing, Sumter; Mary Nell McInley, bread-making, Henry County; Mattie Morrow, dairy foods team, Greene; and Helen Tibbs, dress revue, of Madison.

BACK ROW, left to right: Lucile Burts, bread-making team, Randolph; Ella Logan, baking and dairy foods, Lowndes; Corine Burts, bread-making team, Randolph; and Lottie Gary, food preservation, Macon County

Okmulgee County 4-H Club Boys Win $500.00 in Awards

Okmulgee county Negro 4-H club members entered 8 contests for state awards and won six first places, according to reports from the State Extension office, Stillwater, Oklahoma, and D. P. Lilly, county farm agent.

Okmulgee county boys were in competition with other counties where Extension work is carried on.

The winners are as follows:

Bennie Jennings, state champion, field crops. His award was a gold wrist watch valued at $75.00 and a certificate of honor donated by the International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois. Bennie also received a $200.00 scholarship in leadership. This award was given by the C. R. Anthony Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, with a certificate of honor. Bennie was a Grayson 4-H club member.

Calvin Johnson, first place winner in farm and home safety, Pleasant Hill 4-H club. Donor, General Motors, Detroit, Michigan.

Ira Joyce Galloway, Wheatley 4-H club, first place state winner in meat animals was awarded a watch and certificate by Thomas E. Wilson, Chicago, Illinois.

Arthur Pannell, Grayson 4-H club, state first place winner, soil and water conservation. He was awarded a $50.00 savings bond and a certificate of honor by the Stanolind Oil Company, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

James Tate, Wheatley 4-H club, first alternate in poultry.

Fred Manual, Grayson 4-H club, first alternate in leadership.

The total value of awards received by Okmulgee county 4-H club boys is $500.00.

An achievement banquet will be held for all county and state winners in the near future, Lilly stated.

NEGRO WINNERS WILL GET BONDS

Awards Slated for Eight in Better Living Contest

Eight Negro 4-H Club members, winners in the Better Living contest, will receive $400 in bonds Thursday at Southern university, Scotlandville.

Each winner will receive a $50 bond for expenses to the National 4-H Club Congress for Negroes to be held this year at Tuskegee Institute.

The Chamber of Commerce of New Orleans area, the agricultural extension service of Louisiana State university and The Times-Picayune sponsor the annual contest which began in 1942 for adults.

For three years the contest has been open only to 4-H Club members.

Making the awards will be B. B. Jones, T. F. Cox and Charles Funk Jr., all representing the chamber.

Winners by parishes are: Fairy Dean Cutrer, Tangipahoa; Dayve Y. Thomas, Caldwell; Primrose Bennett, St. Helena; Sylvia Marie Faulk, St. Martin; Richard L. Moncriffe, East Baton Rouge; Jimmie Jones, Union; Arthur J. Jackson, Grant, and Lenward T. Seals, Claiborne.

HONORED BY 4-H CLUBBERS — Three retired Extension workers and one land-grant college president were given meritorious service awards by the 4-H'ers during the Regional Camp at Tuskeegee. Director M. L. Wilson (right) is shown with R. H. Brown of Tenn., T. J. Jordan, who retired as assistant state agent in Louisiana after 35 years, and Mrs. M. L. Toomer of Georgia. Dr. John W. Davis, president of West Va. State College, was unable to be present to receive his award. (Newspress Photo.)

Atlanta Daily World Awards Prizes To 4-H Club Workers

The following youth received $10 each: McKinley Harris, Americus; Ernest Ivory, Perkins; Tommie Lee White, Brunswick; Obediah Floyd, Jr., Griffin; and Charlie M. Gates, Greenville.

Alexander Hurse, Negro State Club agent, selected the youth. The World will also give awards to girls for outstanding club work.

Articles by the two first-place winners follow:

My 4-H Club Work

By JAMES H. MILLER

Eight years ago, I joined the 4-H Clubfor three reasons, namely (1) it was one of the few clubs offered to youngsters ten years ago, in my community; (2) I was interested from the very beginning in carrying home projects; (3) the county agent did a wonderful pob in motivating my interest in Wildlife Camp and District Shore Course. I felt that those were two things I really must attend. Then too, I have always liked people and enjoyed meeting new friends. The other clubs that existed in my school and community only sent one or two delegates to the meetings out of town, but the 4-H carried a bus load which gave me the opportunity to go.

My first project was swine. Since the first year. I have carreid two or more projects, and through selection of materials, caring, producing products, and record keeping, I have not only learned a great deal about this particular subject, but I also made a profit on several of them.

During the eight years of club work, I have been at different times president, secretary, and reporter of my community club, and president and vice-president of the County Council. I have received awards from displays at County Fairs and Ham and Egg Shows, and state awards in corn, cotton, gardening, potatoes, and achievement. I have also received certificates for tractor contest and outstanding work in the county and state.

With the help of my county agent I have been trying to improve my leadership ability by helping to plan programs locally, representing my club at various meetings out of the community and county, assisting my agent in such programs as the County Fair and the Ham and Egg Show, assisting other members with their projects and heping them to learn and understand suchthings as the pledge, creed, etc. I have given several demonstrations in painting ham judging, smoking meat, and electricity.

Out of all the clubs that I have joined and participated in, the 4-H Club is my favorite. I have had learning experiences that in my opinion, have done more than anything else, to help me become a good citizen. It is my desire to become a county agent and do a good job of helping someone else as my agent has helped me.

My 4-H Club Story

By OLIVER ROBINSON

I was very small when our county agent explained to the boys the important points surrounding 4-H club work; every boy was of age except me, and I was only nine years old. However, I persuaded our agent to let me join the 4-H club. I considered it a great honor to be a member of the 4-H club. The main reason I joined the 4-H club was to learn how to make what I had better. At the time, the demonstration agent was teaching my mother how to raise one of the finest gardens in Mitchell County. Before she came there to work, 4-H club wok had neve been stressed in Mitchell County. So I joined without having too much knowledged of the importance of being a 4-H'er. After the first week, I was inspired to keep at the job.

My working in 4-H club has meant much to me. It has taught me to take the advire of other people. When I learned the motto, I thought it was not true, but I found in dealing with my projects. the best ran be mane better.

When I carried by first project, I saw no importance of record keeping until my first project was completed. It was then I began to see what I had spent or made. One of the greatest experience of my prolect work was knowing that I was noing the same thing other boys and girls were doing all over the state of Georgia.

Another experience I have gained by being a 4-H club member is that I have learned to give demonstrations in various projects, thereby increasing my ability to do public speaking. This has helped me much in my school work. For two years, I entered an oratorical contest and won first place each year in the district contest and third place in the state contest.

During my first year in 4-H club work, I held no office, but in the second year, I was elected as reporter. I found that reporting was not an easy job, but a very pleasant one. I enjoyed making known the various activities my club members were doing. The following year I was elected chairman of the poultry project. As project chairman, I assumed the responsibility of giving a demonstration in poultry each month or helping other club members to give demonstrations pertaining to poultry raising. I have also held the offices of treasurer, vice-president and president. In all of these offices. I tried very hard to carry out the duties required of me.

I have received quite a few awards given by individuals and companies for excelling in project work. In addition to cash awards, I have also receive medals and certificates of merit for various projects.

In conclusion, 4-H club is the greatest organization a boy or girl can join.

Name Top 4-H Winners In Texas

HOUSTON, Texas—Annetta Bennett and George Holmes, Grimes County 4-H club members, have copped top honors for Negro club members in Texas for 1952 by winning the 4-H Achievement and Meat Animal awards.

Miss Bennett, 17, is a member of the Mt. Pleasant 4-H club and lives with her parents on a 170 acre farm. She has completed six years of 4-H work and demonstrations have included clothing, food production, preservation and preparation, poultry, field crops, dairying and home improvement.

Her poultry flock has been increased from 50 to 500 birds; has $550 worth of turkeys; two dairy animals and this year she produced two bales of cotton from her two acres. She has canned 385 quarts of food products and made 75 garments in her clothing work. She has won several ribbons at the local fair on her demonstrations and exhibits. She has also been an officer in her local club for four years.

Ford Is Donor

Donor of the achievement program is the Ford Motor company. Medals for the winning boy and girl in each county and state are provided. For the state award, Miss Bennett will receive a pen and pencil set and a Certificate of Honor. She competed with contestants from 19 counties in winning the top award.

George Holmes is 17, and a senior in Lamarque high school. He has completed 6 years of 4-H work with field crops and meat animals as major demonstrations. He has exhibited two champion pigs at the local show and one year won the sweepstakes award on his turkeys. His original pig was awarded him by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation. He has held every elective office in his local club and is a recognized leader among his fellow 4-H members.

George plans to go to college and study medicine. His 4-H demonstrations and activities have been supervised by Leonidas Watson, Negro county agent for Grimes county. His award is provided by Thos. E. Wilson of Chicage and will be a 17-jewel pocket watch and a Certificate of Honor. The donor also furnishes a gold medal for county winners in the meat animal program. The awards are handled through the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work. George competed with winners from 17 counties to gain the top award.

ALABAMA'S 4-H "BIG BRASS"—This quartet of businessmen represents the firms sponsoring and directing the beef calf projects for 4-H Club members in several Central and West Alabama counties. They are (left to right), C. R. Salter, assistant secretary, Old South Insurance Company; C. P. Atherton, J. R. Weatherly, former Birmingham resident, now successful funeral director at York, Ala., and L. L. Gwaltney, vice president of Old South Insurance Company.

800 Youths At 4-H Celebratio

GREENSBORO, N.C. — More than 800 farm boys and girls representing over 700 chapters in the state attended the 23rd annual 4-H Club Week celebration held at A. and T. College last week (June 22-27) to break all attendance records.

The young visitors heard lectures, saw demonstrations on the latest farm techniques, were challenged to higher achievement by inspirational addresses, participated in contests and had the time of their lives with a well-rounded recreational program.

Speakers were Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of A. and T. College who welcomed the group; John W. Goodman, assistant director of the N.C. Extension Service, who told the youngsters:

Set Ideals High

"You will go no higher than the ideas you develop and the ideals that you set for yourselves"; F. G. Gaylang, assistant director of Extension in the Philippine Islands.

Francis Fressly, an Iredell County former 4-H Club member now a senior at State College in Raleigh, spoke to the gathering and presented an illustrated lecture on Italian farm methods.

He told his youthful audience that he "would not give up the valuable experience gained in 4-H Club work for anything in this world.

Land Of Opportunities

J. H. Wheeler, a Durham banker, delivered the principal address at the annual banquet on Thursday.

He told the delegates that while we have the greatest opportunities in America, we likewise assume the greatest responsibilities ever placed on the shoulders of youth, that of training ourselves to tae advantage of the opportunities.

R. E. Jones, state agent for the Extension Service at A. and T. College, in the principal address on the final day, assured the group that the opportunities in agriculture in North Carolina are better than ever.

The annual "Parade of Talent" show was the closing event.

2 Get Top Honors

Two of the young visitors took top honors in the joint 100 Bushel Corn Growing Contest of the New Farmers of America and the state 4-H Clubs. J. Leonard Odum Jr., Northampton County, too first place and with it a War Bond prize of $100.

Other Corn contest winners were Bernard Durham, Wayne County, $50 and Robert Wiggins, Halifax County, Fifth place, $25.

Other awards included:

Team breadmaking, Barbara McLean and Barbara Burk, Mecklenburg County, $25 War Bond; individual breadmaking, Mary Burnett, Orange County, $50 War Bond; dairy foods demonstration, Lena Ward, Mecklenburg County, a watch;

Girl's Judging

Girl's judging, team of Northampton County (Helen Pierce, Delois Johnson and Virginia Downing) 4-H Club bracelet, each; boy's team demonstration, Northampton County (Wayne Daye and McCoy Ricks) 4-H Club wallets, each;

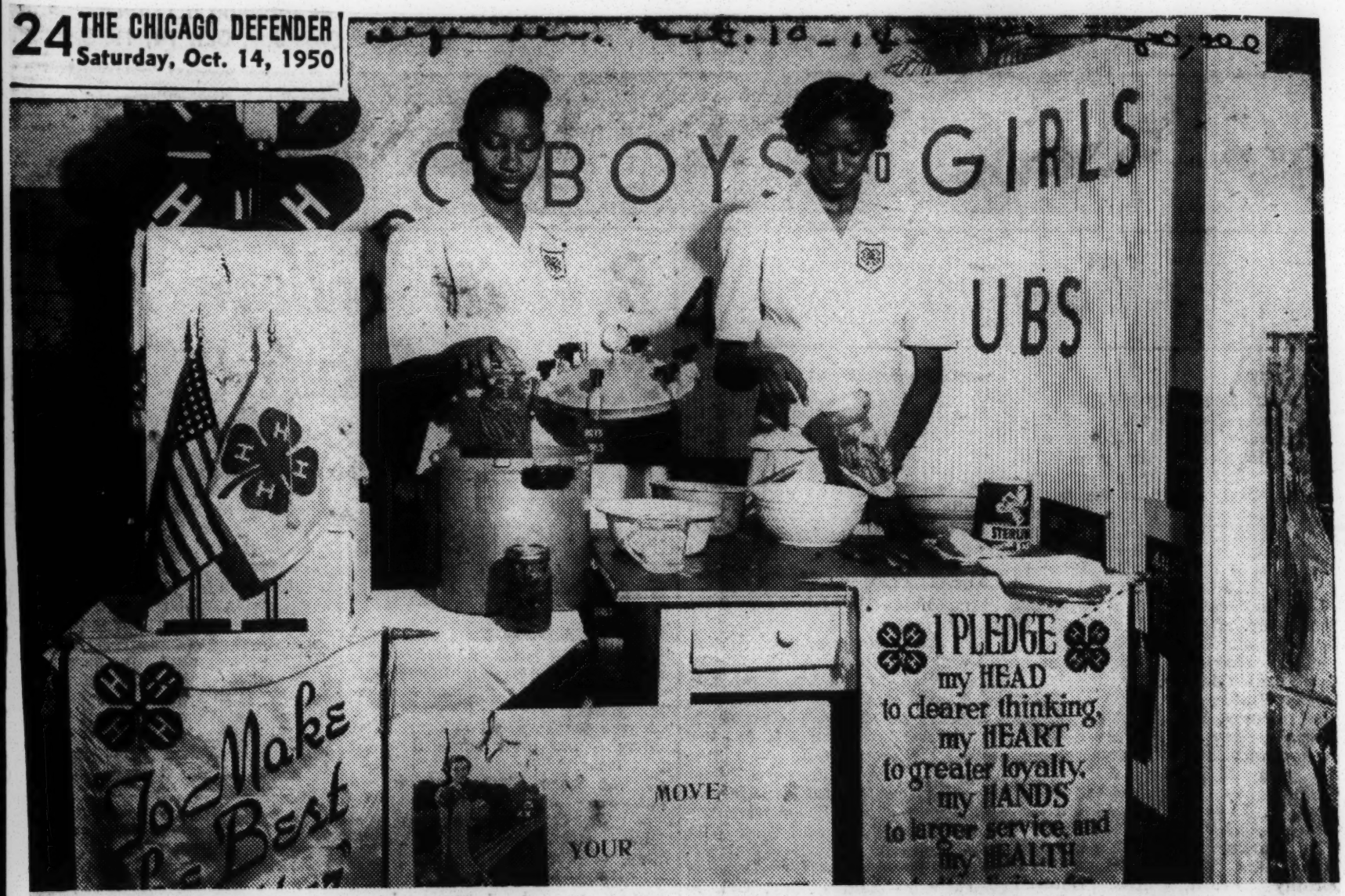
Boy's judging team, Cleveland County (Daniel Smith, Nelson Smith and Roger Jeffries), 4-H Clothes brushes; Clothing, Annie Wells, Orange County, $50 and Jean Norris, Guilford County, second place, material for a dress.

Officers elected were Edward R. King, Edgecombe County, president; Alene Jeffers, Person County, vice-president; Barbara Saunders, Nash County, secretary; Jimmie Pearson, Northampton County, treasurer, and Leroy Reese, Rowan County, historian.

Sat. 5-30-53

4-H GIRL AWARD.—The 4-H girls came for honors also for the year of 1952 for their excellent club work. Reading left to right: Martha Bell who received an award in gardening: Jean Hardin, who received an award for outstanding achievement in club work in '52; Fannie R. Matthews, received an award in clothing; Willie Bryant, an award in leadership; Mrs. B. Flix who presented the awards is the chairman of the Tri-E Committee of Harris County Home Demonstration Council and Miss Vera Dial, ership and Arthur J. Bundage County Agent.

24 THE CHICAGO DEFENDER
Saturday, Oct. 14, 1950



HERE'S HOW TO CAN STRING BEANS!—These two Marion County, Fla., 4-H girls, Doretha Davis and Mildred Bellamy, are shown giving a demonstration in the proper method of canning string beans. The demonstration was given recently at a County Fair, with Billikens, who are also members of the 4-H Club, taking high honors in the canning of fruits and vegetables. The slogan of the 4-H Club is "To Make the Best Better," and that's just what these girls are proving with the delicious- looking canned string beans which are the results of their efforts.

South's Farm Boys And Girls To Have Roundup At Virginia Colleae

PETERSBURG, Va. — The third annual regional 4-H Club Camp for farm boys and girls will be held August 8 to 15 at Virginia State College, according to an announcement made last week by Director M. L. Wilson, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Extension Service.

Each of the 17 states in the Southwide region may send a delegation of four boys and four girls along with their state leaders to the 4-H Camp, Director Wilson points out.

T. M. Campbell, Extension Service field agent stationed at Tuskegee, Ala., will direct the encampment. He will be assisted by John W. Mitchell, field agent, and Ross W. Newsome and Miss Blanche D. Harrison, extension leaders of Virginia.

The encampment is to be worked out by a committee composed of Charles A. Sheffield, Dr. E. H. Shinn, T. M Campbell, John W. Mitchell, and Miss Mena Hogan, of the Extension Service; William Cooper. State 4-H leader of North Carolina, and Mrs. Ruth Rivers, State home agent of Alabama.

The first regional camp was held in 1948 at Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., and the second, last year, at Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State College, Nashville, Tenn.

These Maryland 4-H leaders are being shown how to adjust valves of a tractor as part of a one-day course in tractor maintenance. In turn, they will conduct demonstrations in their communities for 4-H club boys. Course was given recently at Waldorf, Md., by Guy W. Gienger (center), agricultural engineer of the University of Maryland. At Gienger's left is Martin G. Bailey, district extension agent. Course was sponsored by the Maryland State Extension Service and the American Oil Company. Similar courses are given in most of the states.—USDA photo.

9 Top Negro 4-H Leaders Are Named

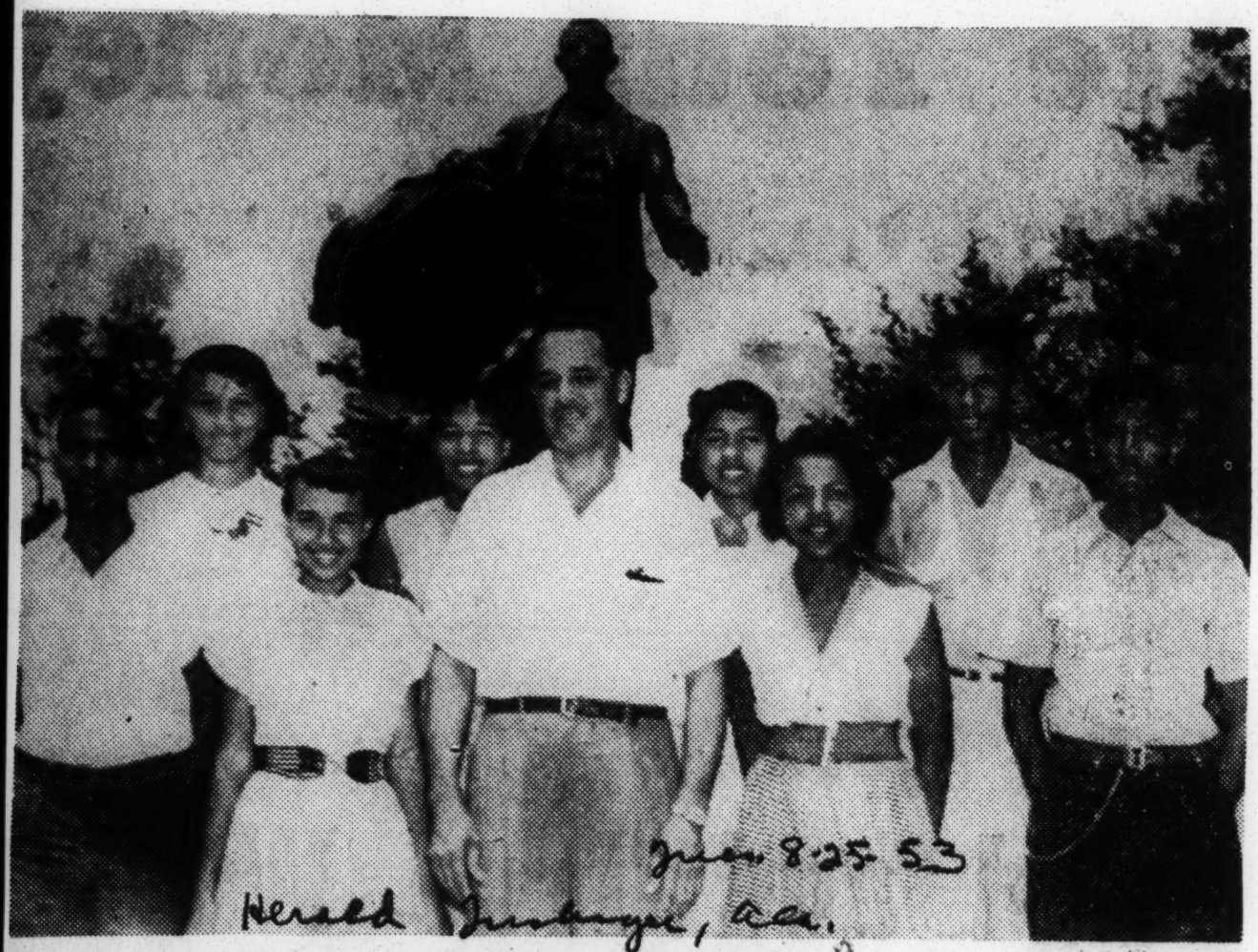
By JACK GILCHRIST
Constitution Farm Editor

DUBLIN, Dec. 11—Nine Negro state 4-H champions were named, community improvement winners were announced and eight Negro 4-H advisors were honored here today as the third annual Georgia Negro 4-H Club Congress drew to a close.

Toni Beard Jr. of Peach County was named state champion in the hybrid corn contest with a yield of 99 bushels. Other state champions named included Renelda Cross, Emanuel County, in senior girls food conservation; Bobby Oliphant, Emanuel, in junior girls canning; Mabel Carter, Chatham, senior girls gardening and Annie Barlowe, Crisp, in junior girls gardening.

Henry Lee Cook, Peach, best boys records; Eugene Colvin, Dodge, potatoes; Randolph Bacon, Toombs, corn project; George Carson, Dodge, cotton.

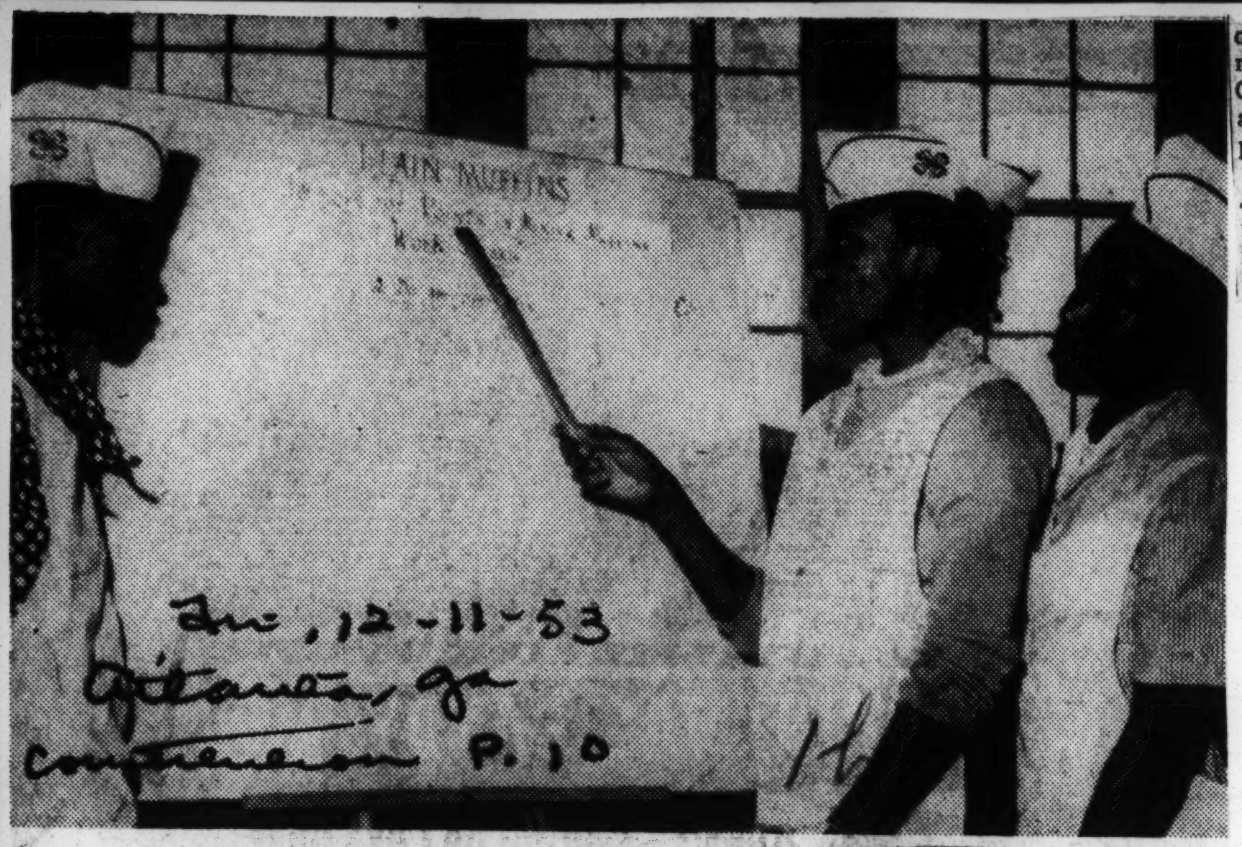
Thomas County won first place in girls records. The Negro advisers who received certificates of merit for their support and interest in 4-H were Alva Cumminge, Laurens; J. H. Thomas, Madison; Grady Dixon, Baldwin; I. B. Fluellen, Peach; Thomas Scott, Camden; Henry Bailey, Glynn; John De Shazier, Brooks and Hill Bolman, Burke.



STATE 4-H CLUB COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS | 1b

Guiding the activities of the Alabama State 4-H Club Council for the next 12 months will be this group of young leaders. They are (front row, left to right) Jerome Gray, vice president, Conecuh County; Barbara Harrison, president, Macon County; T. R. Agnew, state 4-H agent for Negro boys, Tuskegee Institute; Eleanor Hatcher, secretary, Dallas County, and Simuel Mindingall, treasurer, Macon County. On the back row are (le ft to right) Joyce Ann Pulley, reporter, Madison County; Mary Alice Frazier, song leader, Autauga County; Gladys Rose Pringle, sergeant-at-arms, Lowndes County and Alex Roberts, sergeant-at-arms, Monroe County.

KEEN INTEREST IS EXHIBITED AS 4-H CLUB GIRLS VIE FOR HONORS—Top: Each girl in this group of Lowndes County 4-H'ers is a county winner in some phase of club work. They are (left to right) Martha Raye Goggins, Central; Gladys Pringle, Burkeville; Clara Pringle, Burkeville; Rosa Bell Sanders, Hope Hull; Lizzie Mae Johnson, Burkeville; Betty J. Starks, Burkeville; Brezil Johnson, Burkeville; Ella Logan, Central; Octavia Brown, Spann; Helen Rudolph, Spann; Eugenia Thomas, Central; Annie B. McCall, Spann, and Eddie Mae Bender, Central. Bottom left: Martha Raye Goggins of Central won the dairy foods demonstration honors in Lowndes County, and a chance to compete in the district contest. The contests were held at the Lowndes County Training School in Hayneville. Bottom center: In Elmore County Mary Walker of Sandtown Club (second from right) won baking honors, a baking set, and a chance for higher stakes. Observing the set with Mary are Mrs. E. H. Hall, 4-H Club agent, Tuskegee; Mrs. Cassie Mosely, Mary's local leader, and Elmore County Home Agent, Miss Christine Osburn. Bottom right: Winners and all gather around in the Elmore County Training School Home Economics kitchen to watch a demonstration team in breadmaking. Winners from both counties will meet in contests at Montgomery County Training School, Mt. Meigs.



FOOD PREPARATION DISCUSSED AT 4-H MEET
Minnie Murchison, Center, Bryan County; Vera Paul, Left, Vera Cooper of Sumter

23 Negro 4-H Champs Named at Dublin Meet

By JACK GILCHRIST
Constitution Farm Editor

DUBLIN, Dec. 10—Twenty-three Negro state 4-H champions were named here today as 50 Negro boys and girls from more than 20 Georgia counties competed in a wide variety of farm and home projects.

Three counties, Laurens, Sumter and Emanuel, led all the rest as each furnished three state champions. Bryan and Jenkins counties furnished two champions each and 10 other counties each boasted one state champion.

The boys and girls, all of whom were district winners before competing in the third annual 4-H Congress that opened here today, spent most of the morning and afternoon giving their demonstrations at the State Negro 4-H Club camp near here.

SPECIAL RITES

The 1953 Negro 4-H champions will receive their awards tomorrow morning in special exercises at which more than 300 people are expected to be in attendance.

Principal speaker at the morning assembly will be Miss Emmie Nelson, field representative, National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Inc., Chicago, Ill., who will address the boys and girls on the subject, "Leadership Opportunities in 4-H."

At 1 p.m. tomorrow the annual congress banquet will be held at which awards will be made in the 4-H Community Improvement Contest. The banquet speaker will be Mrs. Mamie Reese, director of home economics at Albany State College.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Two plaques for distinguished service to 4-H will also be made during the banquet. The plaques will go to S. H. Lee, retired Negro county agent, and C. A. Scott, editor of the Atlanta World.

The state Negro 4-H champions named here today are:

Home improvement, Luethel Garrison, Bryan County; poultry, James Baker, Laurens; gardening, Aileen Prince, Sumter; farm and home safety, Joe Louis Jones, Appling; tractor, Fred Baldwin, Emanuel; farm and home electricity, Minnie Owens, Lowndes and Robert Howard, Spalding.

Achievement, Anna Ruth Roberts, Emanuel and Louis Barnett, Clarke; leadership, Carrie Lee Williams, Jenkins and Leon Culverson, Meriwether; Canning, Ida Mae Anthony, Bibb; meat animals, Henry Banks, Newton; food preparation, Minnie Murchison, Bryan.

DAIRY FOODS

Dairy foods, Vera Cooper, Sumter; dress revue, Erma Thompson, Mitchell; clothing achievement, Ellestine Jones, Sumter; health, Patsey Johnson, Jenkins and E. D. Kendricks, Peach.

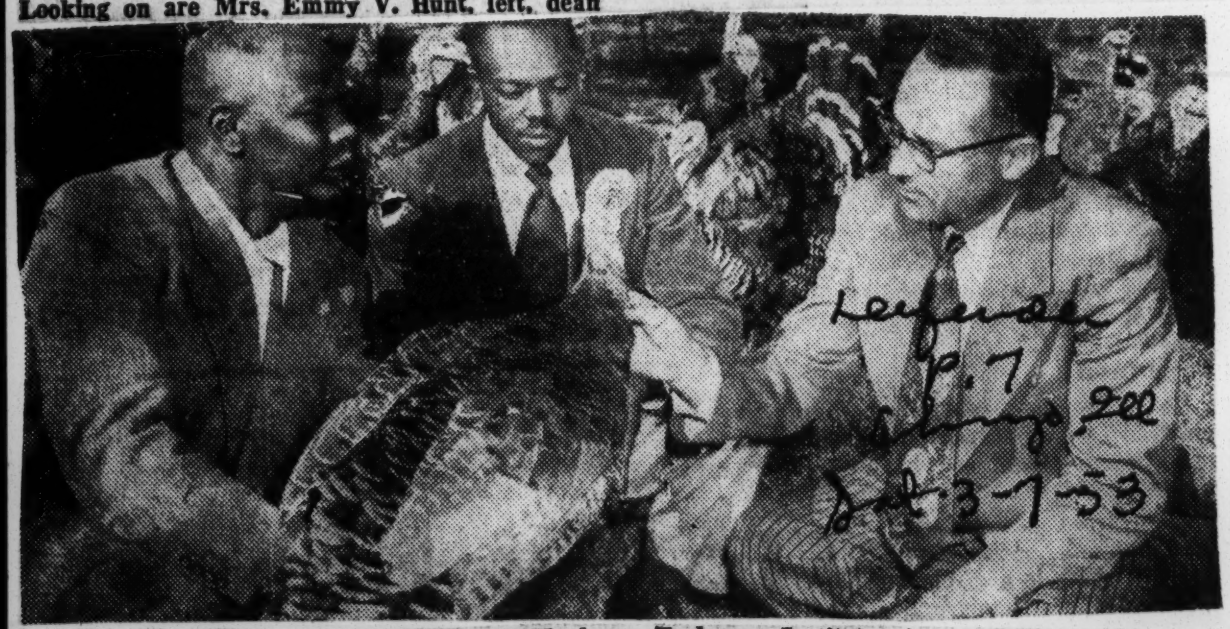
Forestry, Willie Wright, Laurens; dairy achievement, Wallace Rucker, Madison; field crops, Oscar Telfair, Emanuel, and soil and water, Ulysses Banks, Laurens County.

Negro 4-H council officers who are presiding over the congress include Roger Cooper of Laurens County, president; Eugene Jack- of Clarke and Annie Roberts of Emanuel, vice presidents; Carrie Williams, Jenkins, treasurer; Charles Bush, Dodge, secretary, and Minnie Owens, Lowndes, reporter.

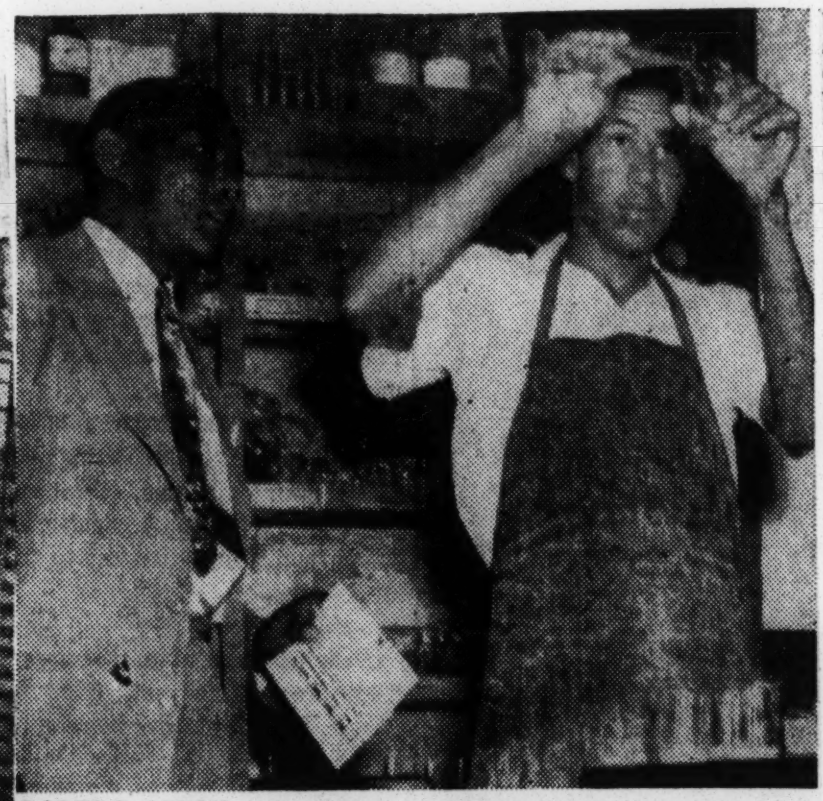
The state council advisors are J. W. Horne, Negro county agent in Newton County and Julia Hamilton, home demonstration agent in Dodge County.

Defender Winners Given Awards At Four Colleges

MISS ELLEN SAUNDERS, center, 4-H'er of Quincy, Fla., who was awarded a $300 Chicago Defender scholarship last summer, is shown in the practice house at Bethune-Cookman college giving a demonstration in selecting a good reading lamp. Looking on are Mrs. Emmy V. Hunt, left, dean of home economics of the college; and Miss Floy Britt, district home demonstration agent of the Florida Extension Service. Like all the other Defender winners, Miss Saunders is making good. USDA Photo.



HAROLD WARREN, center, 4-H clubber of Moulton, Ala., who was awarded a $300 Chicago Defender scholarship last July, is shown getting some pointers on turkey production. Dr. R. A. Monday, left, head of the division of animal science at Tuskegee Institute, is passing the information along to Harold. At right is State 4-H Leader T. R. Agnew of Alabama. The Defender scholarship winner has shown great promise.



ROBERT DIXON, 4-H clubber of Milledgeville, Ga., who won a $300 Chicago Defender scholarship to Fort Valley, Ga., State college last year, is reported to be making good in his study of agriculture. Here he is shown analyzing soils in the agronomy laboratory. Looking on are Dr. C. L. Ellison, left, head of the department of agriculture. — USDA Photo.

How are the 1952 winners of four $300 Chicago Defender 4H club college scholarships progressing? Reports from their respective schools reveal that the enterprising rural youngsters — two boys and two girls — are well on the path to success in their fields.

The purpose of the 4H Scholarship award was to give recognition to outstanding young men and women members of the 4H clubs for work done in agriculture, home economics, citizenship, leadership and other phases of rural life.

Winners of the awards were Robert Dixon, Milledgeville, Ga.; Miss Virginia Qualls, Spring City, Tenn.; Miss Ellen Saunders, Quincy, Fla., and Harold Warren, Moulton, Ala.

Dixon, who matriculated at Fort Valley (Ga.) State college is reported to be making good in his study of agirculture, according to Dr. C. L. Ellison, head of the department.

Miss Qualls is said to be maintaining an excellent scholastic record at Tennessee A. and I State university, Nashville, where she is studying home economics.

Bessie Walton T. M. Campbell

SHOWS PROMISE

Warren, now studying at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., has shown great promise, school officials stated recently.

Miss Saunders, like the other 4H scholarship winners, is making good at Bethune-Cookman college, where she is pursuing a course in home economics.

The progress of the winners is being followed closely by their respective sponsors. Dixon was sponsored by T. M. Campbell, extension field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Miss Bessie Walton, assistant state home demonstration agent, sponsored Miss Qualls.

Another Chicago Defender sponsored contest, the Rural Youth Thrift Club competition, designed to aid deserving young Southern 4-H club members, will be continued this year, it was announced recently.

The purpose of the Rural Youth Thrift club contest, inaugurated last year, was to encourage thrift among rural youth by helping them supplement their family income by earning extra money selling copies of the Chicago Defender—and at the same time afford an opportunity for these youngsters to win valuable prizes.

TOP REWARDS

Rewards included 12 all-expense paid trips to Chicago (two from each of the six states participating, including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee). A free trip was also given to the sponsor of the top winning contestant in each state. Other prizes included bicycles, watches, United States Savings Bonds and cash. Identical prizes were awarded in each of the six participating states.

Already 180 boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 20 have entered from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. The contestants are vieing for top honors as most thrifty boy or girl in their respective states.

The top winners will again receive all-expense paid trips to Chicago during August, 1953, to be guests of the Chicago Defender Bud Billiken parade and picnic—and again this year, a sponsor from each state will also be awarded a free trip to Chicago.

THREE DAY WHIRL

Last year's Thrift Club winners who came to Chicago for a three day whirl wind tour of the Windy City were Donald Upton, Madisonville, Tenn.; Eugene Johnson, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Eugene Walker, Moorhead, Miss.; Elbert Lane, Millen, Ga.; Jasper Touchstone, Griffin, Ga.; John W. Johnson, Cullen, La.; Richard Leon Duty, Minden, La.; Robert R. Martin, Tuskegee, Ala.; Evelyn Johnson,

MISS VIRGINIA QUALLS, center, a 4-H'er of Spring City, Tenn., is shown going over her excellent scholastic record with Miss Erna B. Jones, right, director of home economics at Tennessee A and I State university; Miss Qualls is a winner of a Chicago Defender $300 scholarship.

Roanoke, Ala.; and Calvin Caywood, Osceola, Ark. Jodie Hilliard of Brinkley, Ark., also won a trip to Chicago but was unable to make the trip because of illiness in his family.

Sponsors who accompanied winners to Chicago last year included, Miss Mary E. Woods, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mr. J. C. Oatis, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Ellie R. Gay, Millen, Ga.; Milton Duty, Minden, La.; Robert T. Thurston, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Clarence T. Freeman, Osceola, Ark. and Robert Church, Fort Valley, Ga.

Applications are still coming in and this promises to be an even greater contest than last year. The contest does not close until June 27, 1953, and there's still time for boys and girls from the six states mentioned earlier to get in and win a prize. Write the Chicago Defender for information.

TOP 4-H EXTENSION WINNERS — Four of the top winners in the Community Improvement contest at the Georgia Negro 4-H congress look over the sheet listing other winners. Left to right are: Mrs. Dollena Johnson, Jethar Buckett, Mrs. Vernetta Cosby and Ed Whitaker. — (Photo by Perry

3rd Annual Ga. 4H Congress Closes With Awards, Citations

BY HARMON G. PERRY

DUBLIN, Ga. — (SNS) — Two citations, awards to adult leaders, and the naming of nine State Champions, brought to a close the Third Annual Georgia Negro 4-H Congress meeting here.

The two-day session drew hundreds of 4-H boys and girls from all over the state, along with Advisors, Extension Workers, and leaders to the club encampment situated in Laurens County.

Fifteen adults from the County Agents and Extension Workers ranks were honored Friday at a banquet, and awarded checks given by the Atlanta Journal for their contribution to community improvement.

YOUTH AWARDS

The nine youths received their awards earlier for the best showing in food conservation, canning, gardening, corn, records, potatoes, and cotton. Tom Beard from Peach County was top winner with a 99 bushel yield in the corn contest.

The top four adult winners in the Community Improvement contest were: Jethar Buckett, Appling County; Ed Whitaker, Harris County; Mrs. Dollena Johnson, Laurens County and Mrs. Vernetta Cosby, Bibb County. They won first, second, third and fourth place respectively.

The club in return made two awards to two outstanding Georgians for their leadership and contribution to the 4-H ideals.

C. A. Scott, Editor of the Atlanta Daily World, in accepting one of the two plaques presented by the 4-H Club, congratulated the boys and girls for their work, and reminded them that the farm offered a better and greater opportunities to them. The Atlanta Daily World presented 4 boys and 4 girls awards during the year.

C. O. Brown, presented S. H. Lee, retired County agent, with the second plaque of the evening for 29 years of extension service.

Mrs. Mamie Bynes Reese, President of the Georgia Federation of Colored Women Clubs and head of the Home Economics Department at Albany State College, in addressing the banquet, compared Georgia's improvement with world improvement.

H. H. Dudley, fearless Dublin civic leader, briefed the gathering on the importance of becoming registered voters.

Plans for the improvement of the camp site, which includes additional land and construction of several cottages, were announced by club leaders. John Sengstacke, Editor of the Chicago Defender, revealed plans for the building of a cottage on the camp site in memory of Robert S. Abbott.

Other state champions named included Renelda Cross, Emanual County, in senior girls food conservation; Bobby Oliphant, Emanuel, in junior girls canning; Mabel Carter, Chatham, senior girls gardening and Annie Barlowe, Crisp, in junior girls gardening.

Henry Lee Cook, Peach, best boys records; Eugene Colvin, Dodge, potatoes; Randolph Bacon, Toombs, corn project; George Carson, Dodge, cotton.

Thomas County won first place in who received certificates of merit girls records. The Negro advisers for their support and interest in 4-H were Alva Cumminge, Laurens; J. H. Thomas, Madison; Grady Dixon, Baldwin; I. B. Fluellen, Peach; Thomas Scott, Camden; Henry Bailey, Glynn; John De Shazier, Brooks and Hill Bolman, Burke.

NO NEGRO 4-H'ERS AT STOCK SHOW

Blame Dixie Jim Crow For Lily White Meet

By ALBERT ANDERSON

CHICAGO (ANP) — —Once more the famed International Livestock Show, called one of the greatest in the world, has closed, and the National 4-H Club has held its annual meeting here at International Amphitheatre, and Negro 4-Hers and farm specialists were conspicuous by their absence.

More than 1,300 well trained rural boys and girls from each of the 48 states, United States possessions of Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, and 17 foreign nations were presented last Thursday night to 15,000 cheering spectators as the great event drew to a close.

Most striking to the alert observer, however, was the fact that among all these farm youngsters brought together as a "symbol of democracy as practiced in America, there was not a single black 4-H Club boy or girl.

This is not because America does not produce them. There are thousands of colored 4-H Club boys and girls scattered through the 17 states of the South where segregation is the rule of the land. In those areas, however, instilling of prejudice practiced even on the youth of the South demands the rigorous separation of the youth of the South demands the rigorous separation of the black boys and girls from the white boys and girls into Negro clubs and white clubs.

Through theoretically the same ideals are instilled into these young people, the curtain of segregation prevents Negro participation.

It is an unwritten law in the South that while 4-H Club work is carried on among colored youth, they must have their own district, state and regional camps. They are never permitted to come either to the world famous International Live Stock Show or the National 4—H Club gathering held in connection with it here in Chicago. Neither can they go to the National 4 — H Club Roundup held each year in Wash., D. C. although it and to some extent the meeting in Chicago are held with the cooperation and sanction of the United States Extension Service, a federal division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

National 4-H club group holds fast to racial ban

By ALBERT ANDERSON

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Separate Clubs

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Can Not Come To Capital

Neither can they go to the national 4-H Club Round-up held each year in Washington, D.C., although it and to some extent, the meeting in Chicago are held with the cooperation and sanction of the United States Extension Service, a federal division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The southern state directors of the Extension Service are primarily responsible for this blatant discrimination. The 4-H Club activities are carried on, by state and county extension agents. Colored extension agents and home demonstration agents are set aside to work among colored people, except when they can perform some specialized skilled service for white plantation owners or farmers.